(4) whether the Government have any idea of opening such a grant-in-aid dispensary in each of the areas covered by the Panchayats of the State;

(5) whether the grant-in-aid dispensaries already opened in the State are all working well and what is the average attendance a day in each of the dispensaries, for the first ten months?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) No.

(2) Yes.

(3) A rural dispensary will be useful in any village.

(4) Not at present.

(5) It is now premature to say so. Vide statement below:—

Kumbalangi	....	19·2
Pattikkad	...	20
Malayattur	....	16 5
Cherpu	....	20·1
Velur	....	20·8
Chelakkara	....	19·3
Tattamangalam	....	22·1

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—With reference to part (2), was any local enquiry made into the petition, Sir, as to the necessity of the rural dispensary there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Petitions have been received.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Whether any local enquiry was made into the matter of the petitions?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There was no doubt at all as to the necessity of a grant-in-aid dispensary in any part of the State. For the matter of that no local enquiry was necessary at all.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—When you received a particular petition for a grant-in-aid dispensary, was no local enquiry made? A petition signed by many people!

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I know a dispensary will be most useful.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, I was late for the first question. I should like to put a supplementary question with the President's permission.

Deputy President.—It has been passed over. So I cannot allow you to put supplementary questions now.

Voting of Demands for Grants.—(*contd.*)

Demand No. XV—Law and Justice.—(*contd.*)

Motion No. 13.—(*contd.*)

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, before we proceed to the discussion on the Demands for Grants, may I say one

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

word for the information of the House regarding the observations made by the Hon'ble Member for Trichur that, at the Budget Speech, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer said that women in Ernakulam jump six feet high? I should like to know if it was a figure of speech or he meant it literally. If the latter, I wish to know when and where I have made a statement like that. I do not remember making an astounding statement like that. I do not want the women of Ernakulam to lay such a charge against me. I want to know whether the statement was made by me literally.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—As a matter of course, my personal explanation will be necessary. This was given to me in answer when a series of questions were asked in connection with a patient who was sent out of the Hospital at dead of night, a young woman of 24 or 25. I parsued him with a series of questions why such an un-heard-of conduct has been exhibited towards a patient of his.

Deputy President.—Is this the time to make a speech?

Dr. A. R Menon.—I am only giving an explanation. Personally, I am never fond of making speeches. What I say is.....

Deputy President.—Can you give any information with regard to this statement?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—With regard to that statement, which I say was made by him, he says that that statement was not made by him, and he asked me whether it has any foundation, or whether it is real or whether it is only a figure of speech. I am asked to explain whether it was real.

Deputy President.—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I am going to give the facts.

Deputy President.—Say yes or no, please.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—So they do not want an explanation? They wanted an explanation.

Deputy President.—First say yes or no, and then give the explanation.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Very well, then the statement is true.

Deputy President.—Please state when and where the statement was made.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is in the last year's Proceedings. You will see it there.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—But I think the Hon'ble Member should give notice of the question.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—In the course of his speech he made two statements. These are the two statements; "That seems to be a difficult problem indeed. In a few cases, friends and re-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

lations of patients are allowed to be in the Hospital atnight. Sometimes, friends and relations of patients get into the Hospital at night unawares. The watchman drives them away. Even then, they somehow or other get in." "They were the relations or friends of the patients. They were prohibited from entering the Hospital atnight. They came in the evening and stealthily got in. The ward attendants drove them out, and they came back again. There was a great deal of trouble."

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Do they find a place in the published Proceedings?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Even if they do not find a place in the Council Proceedings, you may ask the Hon'ble Members of the last Council who are here whether this statement is true or not.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Mr. Thomas Manjuran, the Member for Trippunittura, was in possession of the House. He is not present now.

Deputy President.—Anybody else to speak with regard to the motion? The Member for Trichur was discussing about corporal punishment, that it should be done away with.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I would like to put before this House some experiences of mine which would show that corporal punishment is a necessity in certain cases. There are cases in which it will be cruel if persons convicted are sent right away to the jail without having regard to the condition of the persons, whom the convict will be leaving behind, when he marches to the jail. I had the experience in my career as a Magistrate, when a poor man, I say a poor man, indeed a starving man, climbed a cocoanut tree, plucked two bunches of cocoanuts, came down and was caught and brought before the Magistrate red-handed. If the punishment that should be inflicted on him is to be jail for a week, two weeks or three weeks, during the interval that he had to spend in the jail his wife and children would be almost starving. In that particular case I knew that there were even sick persons in his house, his wife and two or three children, possibly his wife was ailing. I thought it was a cruel act to send that man right away to the jail for 2 months or 2 weeks, leaving the persons whom he had to support to the mercy of unkind persons who had caught him and brought him to that state. Therefore, I felt I was right when I thought that he should get the whipping and go home and work and support his family. I think in such instances the Magistrates will be in difficulty as to the right punishment that they should inflict. Suppose that man is fined Rs. 10, he could not find the money to pay; suppose he is sent

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to jail, it will be causing trouble upon the people depending upon him, because they would have to starve. Therefore, under these circumstances, the Magistrate must be given a discretion to give a whipping and to send the convict home to work and feed his family. I feel I have to oppose the Hon'ble Member's motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to support the motion. Whipping is a brutal punishment. It is demeaning both to the administrator and the administered. To say that in the course of justice considerations such as that of mercy, considerations of the poor relatives that he would have to leave behind, if convicted, are all not correct. In meting out justice, no faces can be looked into. Justice is painted blind. No considerations of any kind no expediency of any kind shall enter, in the course of meting out justice. If the Magistrate finds a man guilty, he must punish him, and he has got the discretion to punish him with 2 annas, or imprisonment till the rising of the Court and several other kinds of punishments. He is to conceive and inflict that sort of punishment which he feels right. To administer cuts on the bare back is an antiquated mode of punishment, which no civilised country now adopts. Jail-going itself is supposed to be going to the house of correction, and the jails, in some advanced countries are now known, not as jails, but as houses of correction and reformation. It is that human view that is now prevailing throughout the civilised world. And it is derogatory to the honour of this country to administer whipping, especially as we have now no criminal tribes, and our criminal population that go to the jail and that are found in the jail are only about 150 or so out of the total population of about 10 lakhs of people. And most of them may be for petty thefts and so on. In such a country, that whipping must be resorted to and that in public and must be inflicted by the Magistrate or some one in his presence, is a perversity of our destiny. I plead that such a punishment may be done away with in this civilised, advanced, and cultured Cochin.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, I also rise to support this motion. I think the object of punishment is preventive mostly, and if a man is brought before the public, and if he is publicly whipped, prevention of further crimes will not be effective. He becomes hardened, and he will dare to do anything almost the next day. The object of punishing the person will be futile, if you are to punish him in such a way as to make him prepared to do anything on the next occasion. As civilisation advances, you find in almost all countries the act of giving corporal punishment is done away with as far as possible. The existence of such a corporal punishment in our statutes would

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

go to show that we are much behind the other civilised countries. In the case cited by the Hon'ble Member for Narakkal, he said he administered corporal punishment for stealing a few cocoanuts knowing that the man was starving and that he had a large family to support. In a case like that, he ought to have let off the man without small punishment. He should have punished him perhaps with only a small period of imprisonment, say for a day or two, or let off the man to earn his own livelihood. So in such cases, where a longer punishment under the law will be a punishment not on the culprit alone but also for his relatives, there are various modes for the Magistrates to administer light punishments. We have, in my opinion, far advanced the stage of corporal punishment. There was a time, I am told, in Cochin and in Travancore where the law was tooth for tooth, eye for eye, ear for ear, etc.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Not in Travancore.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Nor in Cochin.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—There were no courts properly organised then. We have got much better courts now. I am speaking of times of old when there was no proper Criminal Courts or anything of the sort that we have now. We have some hazy information of these things from some of the historical works only. If I am asked to cite the authority for it, I may not be able to do so, except some of the journals and some of the historical works. What I say now is that we have far advanced from that stage, and I think it would be a cruel and barbarous mode of punishing convicts, if they are to be given corporal punishment. We ought to take away that from the statute, it is a standing disgrace for us. That is a sort of punishment which I would call demeaning to our State.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Why not bring in a Bill to abolish it?

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I rise to oppose the motion. At present we need not consider about the merits or de-merits of the policy of whipping as a punishment for criminals. That is not the issue here. If anybody is dissatisfied with that, he can as well bring in a Bill to amend the existing law. And this Council can discuss that matter. It is a very important question, and so it is better to bring in a Bill to abolish whipping altogether, and this Council can discuss it fully, and come to a conclusion then. But, I beg to submit that, it would not be proper to discuss this matter, by moving a cut motion like this.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That matter should become a dead letter in the law.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I have moved this cut motion just to know how the wind blows, for bringing in a Bill will depend upon the opinion of this Council on this cut.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—A Bill may be brought in for that purpose.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ മാസ്റ്റർമാർ കുട്ടികളെ തല്ലുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം ഇപ്പോഴും നിൽക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ഇല്ലയൊ എന്നു് അറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബു് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—ഇപ്പോഴും നിൽക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—മാസ്റ്റർമാർ കുട്ടികളെ തല്ലുന്നതു് പഠിക്കുന്നതിലേയ്ക്കു വേണ്ടിയാണെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്. പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു് തിരുത്തിയായിട്ടും തല്ലിയിട്ടല്ലവേണ്ടതു്. പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു് മനസ്സിനെ നന്നാക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ടിയാണു്. (*Hear, hear.*) ഇതാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. അതുകൊണ്ടു് മാസ്റ്റർമാർ പഠിപ്പിക്കാൻവേണ്ടി കുട്ടികളെ തല്ലിശിക്ഷിക്കുന്ന രീതിയും ഉടനെ നിർത്തൽചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇപ്പോഴും ഈ ശിക്ഷ അധികമായി നടത്തുന്നില്ലെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്. മനസ്സിനെ നന്നാക്കുന്നതിനു് ദേഹത്തെമാത്രം ശിക്ഷിച്ചാൽ യാതൊരു ഫലവും ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നുതോന്നുന്നില്ല. എല്ലാശിക്ഷയുടേയും ഉദ്ദേശം മേലാൽ അതെകുറ്റം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുവാനായി മനസ്സിനെ നന്നാക്കിതെറ്റിനെ തെറ്റെന്നു് ബോധംവരുത്തുന്നതിനാണെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. അതിലേക്കു് തീരുമാനിച്ചായും തല്ലുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം യാതൊരു ഗുണത്തേയും ചെയ്യുമെന്നു് തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഈ പരിഷ്കൃതകാലത്തു് ഈ മാതിരി ശിക്ഷകൾ തീരെ നിർത്തേണ്ടതാണെന്നാണു് എന്റെ താഴ്മയായ അഭിപ്രായം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ശിക്ഷിക്കുന്നതു് നന്നാകുവാൻ മാത്രമാണെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുന്നില്ല. നന്നാകുവാനും ആ ഭയംകൊണ്ടു് മറ്റുള്ളവർ അതുപോലെ കുറ്റം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുവാനും, മേലാൽ അയാൾതന്നെ കുറ്റം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുവാനും ആണു് ശിക്ഷിക്കുന്നതു്. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട തുഴുവപേരൂർ മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഒരാളിനെ പബ്ലിക്കായിഅടിപ്പിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അയാളെ പരസ്യമായി അപമാനിച്ചു് അയാളുടെ നല്ലമനസ്ഥിതിയെ കെടുത്തുകയുന്നതിനാൽ അയാൾക്കും നന്നാകുവാനുള്ള കഴിവു ഇല്ലാതെപോകുന്നു. അതാണു് അതിന്റെ ന്യായം (*hear, hear*). ഒരാളെ തല്ലി അയാൾക്കു നന്നാകുവാനുള്ള കഴിവിനെ ഇല്ലാതാക്കരുതു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. എ. ചാക്കോ.—മറ്റു ശിക്ഷകൾക്കും ഈ ദോഷമില്ലെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—കഴിയുന്നതും എല്ലാതരം ശിക്ഷയും മാറണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ആദ്യം ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞനിലയിൽ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാനും അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I wish to claim the right of reply after hearing the Government speaker on this cut.

Deputy President.—Do you want to know their opinion?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I want to hear the Government's views on this matter.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—The law as it now stands allows corporal punishment. Government agree that it should not be rigorously enforced but only sparingly used. We find that the non-official Members of this House are divided in their opinion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What about the other side; do you all agree?

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—I only said that the Government is not prepared to abolish corporal punishment altogether or bring in a Bill for the abolition of corporal punishment. But if any Member thinks that the abolition is necessary, he can bring in a Bill for the abolition of corporal punishment, and if that Bill is passed by this House, Government will consider whether it should be given effect to or not.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is a wrong statement. After the Bill is passed in this House, it will have to receive the assent of His Highness.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—I only meant that, if the Bill is passed by this House, His Highness will consider whether corporal punishment should be abolished or not and either give or withhold His assent.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—When I brought this, I never knew that there would be any opposition at all. So, at the beginning I introduced this motion with one or two sentences and it has come to be persistently opposed. I see that it is being opposed and opposed by eminent men, persons who are expected to know more about the usefulness of this punishment. Then I am asked by a gentleman there, why not bring in a Bill. The object of this motion is to see whether the Bill has any chance of passing through this House. Therefore, I would request the Government to give the Members on the other side the same liberty to vote according to their conscience, as we intend voting. One fundamental fact must be grasped by the House. If you go

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

through the history of punishment in any country,—I have gone through some of the best literature on the subject—one fact presents itself before your eyes, that is, in all such cases means are resorted to to ameliorate the condition of the prisoner or to soften the punishment. Invariably, the Judges, Magistrates and the officers who are entrusted with the duty of carrying on judicial administration have opposed all such measures. If you are to be guided by the judges in matters like this, you may be certain that there would not have been any improvement in these laws. It is very curious that people, who are considerate or kind-hearted or god-fearing, all those who come as judicial officers, will not oppose any measure of amelioration. Therefore, paying due respect to my Hon'ble friend sitting in front of me, in this matter you should not be guided by his judicial experience. That should be a test to you, a warning to you, that his opinions should not be accepted. Whenever a judge opposes this measure, you may take it for granted that you will be wrong if you agree with him. Therefore, I am right, and if you agree with me, you are also right.

There is another aspect of the question which I want to consider. You must consider apart from the consideration of the family and his children the man's future. You must consider how the insult—I call it a serious insult, more than insult—affects the person as the result of the judgment passed by my friend sitting in front of me in this very Hall. I say you must consider how this infliction of punishment which is not only immoral, but also a brutal insult, how it affects the self-respect, the honour of the nation of which he forms a unit. It is derogatory to the national honour (*hear, hear*) to have a Regulation which inflicts corporal punishment openly upon their bare backs. Can you conceive of a more mischievous, disfiguring scene of a heinous duty than beating mercilessly? It is disgraceful, and I think this House would do well to throw away all these silly arguments that whipping is necessary. I say it should come to an end, be abolished straight away. I may assure you now by a study of the statistics in the country whether whipping as a crime has not increased or stopped. I challenge anybody to decide that statement.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It should be to correct that statement.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I press the motion for a division.

Question put:—"*That corporal punishment in all matters be abolished*".

Question put and agreed to.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—I just want to correct my previous statement that Government may, if the House is for aboli-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

shing corporal punishment, bring in a Bill to this House. I do not say that Government is going to bring in a Bill. That is all what I have to say.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I may say for the information of the House that even in Soviet Russia corporal punishment has been done away with.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided, Ayes 20, Noes 1.

Ayes.

1. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.
2. ,, A. L. Antony.
3. ,, K. J. Antony.
4. ,, K. Ayyappan.
5. ,, C. Barton Wright.
6. ,, A. Eachara Menon.
7. Dr. A. G. Menon.
8. Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.
9. ,, E. Ikkanda Warriar.
10. ,, Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.
11. ,, T. Krishnan Nair.
12. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.
13. ,, C. A. Kunjunni Raja.
14. ,, Ouseph P. Kundukulam.
15. ,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.
16. ,, M. K. Raman.
17. ,, I. Raman Menon.
18. Dr. A. R. Menon.
19. Mr. A. B. Salem.
20. Dr. E. A. Veigas.

Noes

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.

(All the others remained neutral.)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—They can change their minds when taking the poll. Mr. M. A. Chakko, the Member for Narakkal, did not stand up even though he first stood up when the President called the Members who were against the cut to stand up. So also the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We had instances of that kind last year also. Mr. S. S. Koder changed his mind.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We have instances now also.

The whole Demand of Rs. 1,56,703 minus Re. 1, unaer 'Law and Justice' was granted by the House.

Demand No. XVI—Jails—Rs. 38,395

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an amount of Rs. 38, 395 under 'XVI—Jails'. There are not much variations in the figures which require any explanation. I request the House may be pleased to grant it. I may also point out that the Standing Finance Committee has passed this.

Motion No. 1.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 41,500 under "Demand No. XVI—Jails" by Re. 1.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I have tabled this motion to discuss generally the Jail Administration. Last year I brought in a motion requesting the Government to appoint a Committee to enquire into and report upon the administration of the Central Jail, and recommending the necessary modifications that ought to be introduced in the Jail Administration. I may be permitted to say that once at least the Government, true to their word, appointed a Committee within a reasonable time, and the Committee, consisting of three, after visiting such things as will be a help to the problem, have made a recommendation and submitted a joint report. Following the principle of give-and-take, we were to give a joint report, and I do hope, and I am also certain, that the Government would accept our recommendations, if not in full, at least substantially. Now the object of this motion to-day is to point out to Government the absolute necessity of retaining in the service a man, who has had long Jail experience, and whose term is to be shortly completed. At a time when extensions are given very freely, I think the Government will be amply justified in giving extension in this case, if they can find their way, so that the new reforms that ought to be introduced may be done under very good auspices. I have borne testimony in this House before on the kind and humane treatment accorded to the prisoners by the present Jail Superintendent. A gentleman of his character, of his humanity, of his desire to do what is right, what is just and what is due to the prisoner, I say, a man of such a type is essential if the reforms that we proposed to the Government to be introduced may be done. Therefore, I thought I would avail myself of this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Government the possibility of giving an extension to the present Superintendent, and send somebody like Mr. Campbell to study Jail Administration before the present incumbent is relieved of his post. I only wanted just to bring to the notice of the Government this fact.

(*The motion was with leave withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 2.

Mr. A. B. Salem. — *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 41,500 under "Demand No. XVI—Jails" by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have tabled this token motion for the purpose of inviting the attention of the Government to the same report not being published—the Jail Committee report. It is very important that the country should know the result of the joint deliberations of that Committee which travelled south as far as Trivandrum, and visited the Jails there.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—And to Coimbatore in the north,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I did not know. I have not seen the remarks of the Jail Committee. They had been to Trivandrum, that is all I know. That they went to Trivandrum I knew from the visitor's book in the Jail in that Town. No information was published that they went to Coimbatore on the occasion. I allege that information is withheld from Members, and they undergo difficulty, since the Government do not give any information, and consequently Members do not know what has taken place in the country. Whenever a country appoints a Committee, and when that Committee finishes its work, at least a small Press Communique may be published. The Government may kindly, hereafter at least, issue such for the information of the people. They do not do such things. We want to bring that fact to their notice.

What I bring to the notice of the Government is that some provision must be made for miscellaneous expenses and for the purpose of contingencies.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—If any such contingencies arise, Sir, it can be done. Now there is no requisition. The Committee has submitted a report early in Mithunam.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press the motion.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.*)

Demand under 'XVI—Jails' was granted.

Demand No. XVII—Police—Rs. 1,85,396.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Sir, this is the last occasion on which I have the pleasure of addressing this House for the Demand under head 'XVII—Police'. The House has been very kind and generous to me in the past, and I hope that it will continue the same kindness, and in their magnanimity pass the demand that I seek at their hands. The demand is very modest. It is for Rs. 1,85,396. I say modest, because it was Rs. 4,000 more in the previous year ; the budget calls for no explanation on my part. There has been a reduction in expenditure. The House would be glad to hear that there is no increase at all. The reduction, if any explanation is necessary, is due to no allowance being made for the Motor Boat. Last year we had to purchase a boat. With these few words I request the House to kindly pass this demand.

Motion No. 1.

A. Police Proper—Supplies and Services.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 300 for rewards.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I move for the omission of the allotment of Rs. 300 for rewards. My object in tabling

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

this motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the unsatisfactory way in which the bus traffic is regulated throughout the State. There are very strict rules, and they are very excellent ones too. Special constables, hatted constables, are appointed specially to do traffic duty. They are seen in most of the crowded roads. In spite of all these, the result produced is very unsatisfactory. If one examines this question a little in detail, one is tempted to ask why are these rules framed and why these constables posted on the roads. Is it for the benefit of the public, is it for the benefit of the bus owners or is it for the benefit of the Police? The more I think of it, the more I am constrained to remark that it is more for the benefit of the constables on traffic duty than for anybody else.

So far as the public is concerned, there are no consolidated time-tables showing the arrivals and departures of buses to guide them. They have to depend upon chance and the mercy of the bus owners, who, in their turn, have to count upon the whims and smiles of the Police. To take one instance. Go to a starting station. You tell them that you want to go to a particular place. You are told "We have no time now. Some other bus went just now. You have to wait." If you are in a hurry to go, you call the driver privately and tell him that you want to go urgently and ask him to manage it somehow. You can see the driver whispering something to the constable. Soon he comes and tell you—'Get ready, Sir, get in. We will take you.' These sorts of things occur every day.

Again, Sir, many buses do not run at the scheduled time. The rule that, if they do not run at the time given to them in the permit for one or two days consecutively, the permits will be cancelled is not strictly observed. The rules regarding overcrowding is also honoured more in its breach than in its observance. It is not infrequently that you see an eight-seater bus carrying 18 and 20 passengers.

Again, Sir, the too frequent change of timings and the indiscriminate giving of permits without regard to the interests of bus owners or the convenience of the public create a feeling in the minds of the persons concerned that a lot of favouritism is going on in this Department.

Sir, it is high time that these vagaries of the Police are checked. It is to bring these facts to the notice of the Government that I tabled this motion. It is becoming increasingly difficult and inconvenient both for the public and the bus owners to get on.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I am surprised at the shocking ignorance disclosed by the Hon'ble

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Member. As a lawyer he ought to know the vehicles' rules. I am sorry the point has been misunderstood. The Hon'ble Member seems to think that motor service in the State is under Government management. I should disabuse his mind of this impression. The Government control is limited to the extent of preventing accidents and enforcing the rules under the Motor Vehicles Act. Timings are given to buses to prevent accidents by unhealthy competition or by racing. No bus can be forced to if it does not care to run at all. The Hon'ble Member expects at bus stands a time-table as in the Railway Station. The odious nature of this demand is obvious. The Hon'ble Member may have been put to inconvenience for not obtaining a bus to suit his hours of fancy. To throw the blame upon the Police is rather ungenerous to say the least of it. Traffic constables do duty only in the towns of Ernakulam and Trichur and not all along the trunk roads, *e. g.*, Trichur to Irinjalakkuda, Trichur to Kozhinjampara, Trichur to Vadakkancheri and Vadakkancheri to Pazhayannur as explained by the Hon'ble Member. The traffic duty constables in these towns are no doubt doing their duty to the best of their ability, as almost every other Member in this House would bear out, and it is nothing short of treason to say that traffic is not properly regulated. Several of the Hon'ble Members and other respectable citizens have often expressed their appreciation of the work of the traffic duty constables who came into existence only about 3 years ago. The Hon'ble Member's remark about traffic duty constables receiving tips from bus men is frivolous. It is an ugly statement, undignified and ignoble, unworthy of utterance on the floor of this Hon'ble House.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Unfortunately it is a fact.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I do not contend that the Police Department consists of angels. The strat a of society from which the rank and file are drawn and the pittance they get in the shape of pay could not support any such claim. Well, may I ask, Sir, if they are all angels in other walks of life? That is all I have to say. I hope the House will kindly consider the matter and pass my demand.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—In view of the fact that the Hon'ble Member himself has felt that most of what I have said is true, so far as the Police in the matter of corruption is concerned, although they may be no direct admission, but they are indirect admission, and hoping that they will take a better care to avoid such circumstances, I withdraw my motion.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Motion No. 2.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,97,000 under "Demand No. XVII" by Re. 1.*

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Sir, my object in bringing this motion is to point out to the Government the unreasonableness of still retaining the Prosecuting Inspector on a different cadre from the Division Inspector though, in the Budget Session of the First Legislative Council held in Karkadagam 1101, the principle of placing all Inspectors on the same cadre was practically conceded.

In this connection, I also draw the attention of the House as to how the Government disregard the decisions deliberately taken in the open sessions of this House; how the Government make fish of one and flesh of another in the distribution of official patronage; and how it is high time to right the wrong that is persistently being done to an admittedly efficient officer of the State Police.

I would invite the attention of the House to the Proceedings of the Budget Session held on Wednesday, the 20th of Karkadagam 1101, pages 2009 and 2010, and pages 2030 to 2032. On pages 2009 and 2010, you will find, Sir, that the then Member for Trichur, Mr. A. Sankara Poduval, urged before the House the necessity of doing away with the invidious distinction maintained between the Munsiffs and the Registrars of the Chief Court in the matter of their respective monthly salaries. On pages 2030 to 2032 you will find the discussion occasioned by the cut motion tabled by my predecessor at Pallivirutti, Mr. George Chakyamuri, similarly pointing out the desirability of doing away with the distinction maintained in Cochin between the Division Inspectors and the sole Prosecuting Inspector for the whole State. The pay of the Munsiffs at the time was Rs. 150—300, and that of the Registrar Rs. 150—250. The pay of the first grade Division Inspector was Rs. 150—200 and that of the 2nd grade Rs. 125—150; while the pay of the Prosecuting Inspector was only a meagre pittance of Rs. 75—100, which was fixed in 1086 M. E., *i. e.*, 17 years ago. It may be pointed out, that at first there were two Prosecuting Inspectors. Subsequently, the number was raised to three. Then a gradual retrenchment came in, until at last, with effect from 1st Kumbham 1095, the number came down to *one* for the whole State. Nevertheless, not a pie was added to the original pay of Rs. 75—100. There was also an anomaly in this. Sub-Inspectors are subordinate to the Prosecuting Inspector. According to the revised scale of pay of the Sub-Inspectors, which was brought into force on 1st Kumbham 1095, the pay of the first

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

grade Sub-Inspector was fixed at Rs. 80. So, an officer, who is newly appointed to the post of the Prosecuting Inspector, will be drawing a pay lower than that of the first grade Sub-Inspector, who is his subordinate. It is these anomalies that my predecessor brought to the notice of the House for rectification. The discussion will show that the principles, brought forward by the Member for Trichur and by the Member for Pallivirutti, were conceded by the Government as well as by the House, and both Mr. Poduval, and Mr. Chakyamuri withdrew their respective motions. In regard to the Prosecuting Inspector, the then Diwan-President asked the Commissioner of Police, "Is this a matter that requires immediate attention without referring to the Special Finance Committee?" The latter replied promptly and in unmistakable terms, "Yes, Sir, I think so." In spite of all these things, I regret very much to have to observe that the Government have made fish of one and flesh of another. The Budget proposals presented to us by the Finance Member show that the present salary of the Chief Court Registrar Mr. A. V. Krishna Ayyar is Rs. 300, being the maximum salary of the revised scale of pay of the Registrar, conceded at the Budget Session of Karkadagam 1101, while that of the Prosecuting Inspector, Mr. V. A. Pascal, is Rs. 100, being the maximum pay of the scale fixed 17 years ago. Mr. Pascal began drawing the maximum pay of the post 10 years ago. I fail to see what has intervened in the meantime, which made the Government to a departure from the decision taken, after mature discussion, by the House in Karkadagam 1101, and to manifest a distinction between Mr. A. V. Krishna Ayyar and Mr. V. A. Pascal. The former is doubly blessed. He was put on the same cadre as the Munsiffs. Nay, he has been given the maximum pay according to the revised scale. I may, without fear of contradiction, state at once that, of the two, it was Mr. Pascal's that legitimately deserved prior consideration. *The Civil List* shows that he is in the 52nd year of age and the 27th year of service. His scale of pay was fixed over 17 years ago, and he is the only officer of the Police Department whose pay has not undergone any revision whatsoever for the past 17 years, notwithstanding the fact that the Prosecuting staff has since been reduced steadily from three to two at first, and then to one, and that his work and responsibility have considerably increased thereby. He became the Prosecuting Inspector 15 years ago, and he has been rotting on the same salary for all these long years. Price of food-stuffs have gone high more than cent per cent since. That astute and benevolent Diwan Sir T. Vijayaraghavachari once said, "People must live before other things can be thought about."

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Need I say, Sir, that this dictum of a great man of international fame is as full of matter as an egg is of meat?

Unlike the practice obtaining elsewhere, the Prosecuting Inspector attends without any remuneration whatever to cases of other departments as well. The Public Prosecutor used to mind them before, and they used to be paid appearance fees for it. The accumulated savings to the Government on this account must have now swelled to a high figure. I am sure that the Hon'ble Members for Law and for Revenue will bear me out in this. I find that the Special Finance Committee also has since recommended putting all Inspectors on the same cadre.

For all these reasons, Sir, I urge that, as in the case of the Chief Court Registrar, the Prosecuting Inspector be put on the same cadre as the Division Inspectors with *retrospective* effect and that the present incumbent, Mr. Pascal, be given the maximum pay according to the revised scale from the date on which Mr. Krishna Ayyar was given the maximum. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg to support the motion. It is not because I grudge the preference given to Mr. Krishna Ayyar. As a matter of fact I appreciate the move and do recognise that he ought to have been given the maximum. In the case of Mr. Pascal, however, I am afraid there is gross injustice done for a long time. If I remember right, I think it is in 1095, the post of the Junor Prosecuting Inspector was abolished and the Senior Prosecuting Inspector was saddled with that work. The Junior was drawing Rs. 75. The recommendation made by the then Head of the Department was that the pay of the Senior Prosecuting Inspector might be raised to 150 and that he be put on a par with the Divisional Inspector of Police. I believe the Hon'ble Member for Narakkal, than whom nobody else is more competent, will speak to this fact.

If the Junior Prosecuting Inspector had continued to exist till now, he should have been given for the last 100 months pay amounting to nearly Rs. 7,500. This is a clear gain to the Government since Mr. Pascal alone was doing all the work from 1095. Again, if Mr. Pascal had been promoted to the grade of the Division Inspector, he must have been drawing on an average about Rs. 125. That means, about Rs. 25 more than his actual pay to-day. Gain on this account also for a period of 100 months, therefore, comes to Rs. 2,500. All these facts ought to be duly considered in estimating the injustice done to this able officer. I think it is the practice in British parts and elsewhere to put one of the Senior Inspectors in charge of the prosecution work. The prosecution work is really more difficult and important than

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the work of the Divisional Inspector. The Prosecuting Inspector prepare the charge sheets, connect facts together and place them before courts and fight the matter out with the Vakils, while the Division Inspectors do their work in camera. And in the case of Mr. Pascal, his service has been recognised to be an efficient one and certified to be so by the Commissioner of Police openly before this House once. Under these circumstances, I request that Mr. Pascal may be given the maximum pay of at least the 2nd grade Division Inspector with retrospective effect from the date from which Mr. Krishna Ayyar was given maximum pay.

Deputy President.—Do you want to divide the House on this point?

Mr. K. J. Antony.—I should like to know the opinion of the House for considering this matter.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—The Finance Committee's report has been submitted to the Government. In this I have recommended that the Prosecuting Inspector should be placed on the same grade with any other Inspector on the line. I made a recommendation some time ago at the very early stage of my coming. This was sent to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee considered and returned the same. It is now under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Has the Government to express any view on this matter?

Deputy President.—That is the view of the Departmental Head.

Mr. K J. Antony.—Is it his personal view or the view of the Government?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Government have not decided.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—My point is I want to put him on the same grade with *retrospective* effect.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I do not say about retrospective effect.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Then I beg leave to withdraw.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.*)

Motion No. 3.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reauce the total allotment of Rs. 1,80,396 under 'Demand No. XVII' by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 3, Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I beg to move for the reduction of the total allotment of Rs. 1,80,396 under Demand No. XVII by one rupee. My object in tabling this motion is to bring to the attention of the Government the necessity of taking

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

away the power of giving grant of brake certificates from the Commissioner of Police and also for appropriating to the Government the amounts collected by way of brake certificates and the necessity of appointing a special officer called the Motor Inspector and investing him with that also. I had sent some questions. I want also some information on hat point, and I request that I may be supplied with them before I elaborate upon this point.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I wanted to give some informations upon this point, and I had noted it on a piece of paper.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—When was this system introduced?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I am sorry I have not got it. I have noted it on a slip of paper. I cannot find it. I was looking for it this morning. It was introduced approximately about the middle of 1100 or 1101. I think so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know what the amount collected by way of brake certificate is?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I am sorry I cannot give that. I cannot supply the information.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Are there any records?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—No record about brake certificates, since the amount comes into my pockets, which I have disclosed to the House.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Too big a pocket!

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is it not a fact that you give receipts for those who pay the amount?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I never give receipts.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Don't you give printed receipts and keep counterfoils in the office?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Sometimes. In the case of one solitary person. That is not receipt.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I seriously ask this question. Is it a fact that there is no counterfoil kept in the office for the fees received for brake certificates?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—No counterfoils or receipts.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is there not a ledger kept which shows the names of persons to whom brake certificates are given?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—No.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know the approximate amount?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I cannot tell you. I am sorry. You may take it to be anything. Rs. 10,000 a year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Apart from joking, may I know how much ? I feel the Commissioner of Police takes it as a joke; I cannot help it.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I don't take it as a joke. It is because I cannot give it. Approximately, you may take any figure, Rs. 10,000.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I had also sent some other questions, for which the answer may be given. I expected this move and I had asked certain other questions. May I know the number of buses running, for which licenses were given during the last year ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I am sorry that file is not here. But that file is in Ernakulam. I can give it to you at any time. I am very sorry.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know approximately the number of buses plying for hire, and for which permits are given in this year ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—The number of buses running in Cochin State during the year 1103 is 94, the number of buses, I mean.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know the number of times they were given brake certificates ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Twice a year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Are all of them given only twice a year ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—However, carrier buses running in the ghat section are required to take certificates once in three months. They have done it only in one year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know how many buses are running in the ghat section ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—I have not got the exact figure. About six to eight.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—On a rough calculation from the figures given by the Hon'ble Member for Police the income from brake certificate fees will come to about Rs 2,500 to Rs. 3,000. There is absolutely no principle in giving this amount.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Sir, the amount is wrong. It cannot be Rs. 3,000 for 94 buses.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—The Hon'ble Member knows it much better than I do. May I know what is the amount collected in each year for one bus ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Rs. 24 for one year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—You said that the number of buses is 94. They are given brake certificates twice a year. The buses that run in the ghat section have to take brake certificates 4 times a year. And after all the figures given to me are only approximate.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—They have taken only twice this year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar,—Sir, whatever that be, for the purposes of my argument, the amount collected will approximately come to Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,000 and in view of the fact that the buses are increasing every year, it is most probable that the amount also will increase in future. This large amount is now allowed to be appropriated by the Commissioner of Police. There is absolutely no rhyme or reason in giving it to him. If this analogy is extended, if any new additional regulations are passed, say, for instance, the Succession Certificate Regulation and certain other Regulations for which special fees are levied the Judges who administer those laws should be given those amounts. Again, Sir, the most unfortunate part of the thing is that the Government itself is not in a position to know what the amount collected is. My second point is that the amount ought to find a place, even if you think that the amount should go to the Commissioner of Police for the additional work he does, in the annual budget. It must be remitted into the Treasury, and then it may be paid to the Commissioner. That, I submit, and in this matter, even the Finance Member will agree with me, will be the sound policy from a financial point of view, from the point of view of keeping proper accounts.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—They never thought so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Again, Sir, the Commissioner of Police is not able to do full justice to the work entrusted to him. He does not possess the requisite technical knowledge. He is not able to inspect the buses except when they are taken for the purposes of giving brake certificates. It generally happens that the bus owners borrow brakes from other buses before they take them to the Commissioner of Police and get the certificates. The next morning, they unhinge them and give them back. I can challenge, if all the buses are to-day ordered to be brought to a particular place, the majority of them will not have hand-brakes. The Government have now

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

conferred on the Commissioner the power of issuing licenses under Hackney Carriages Regulation. I am sure he will not be able to do full justice to all these. It will not be denied that the buses ought to be occasionally inspected with a view to see that they are kept in conformity with the rules. They are also increasing every day. It is, therefore, better to have a separate officer. There will be sufficient funds. The Government may not have to spend any extra amount. I would, therefore, recommend the appointment of a special officer or officers called Motor Inspectors, who may be entrusted with the powers of giving brake certificates and charged with the duty of inspecting the buses and seeing to the proper observance of the Rules and Regulations. It is to bring home to the Government the importance of this subject and the urgent necessity of doing something in the matter that I tabled this motion.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—This is putting power in the hands of the subordinates which ought to be in the hands of a responsible official.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—What class of persons would you suggest?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Some responsible officer who has special knowledge of motor mechanism. Pay him Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 a month.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the rule in British? Are there no Inspectors?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—The Hon'ble Member has been trying without success to have a fling at me for the last two years and I don't mind giving him the gratification of having succeeded in his ignoble attempt. I have lost all interest in brake certificate fees, and I can easily concede to his proposal. In the British parts, as the Hon'ble Member for Trichur asked me, they have got Inspectors to inspect buses. But the conditions differ. There, of course, Superintendents of Police were inspecting the buses before. Buses were few at the time. Now it is almost impossible for a District Superintendent of Police to inspect all buses in time. For instance, if you take Malabar, you will find how difficult it is for a District Superintendent of Police to inspect all the vehicles in Tellicherry, Cannanore, Palghat and other places. The conditions here are different—one can rush from Trichur to Kunnamkulam, Kunnamkulam to Vadakkancheri or Irinjalakkuda and inspect all the buses in a few days. Apart from that, there is no objection to me at least now. I do not object to the proposed appointment, but it must be borne in mind that a Motor Vehicle Inspector cannot be an officer of the same status and integrity as the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Commissioner of Police and cannot possess the same amount of honesty and sense of justice and fair play. If you think that officer could do more justice to your bus owners, you are quite at liberty to press your motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is he not expected to know more about the mechanism?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—It is quite true. The mechanic will know more. But in the matter of brake certificates, I may tell the House that the officer who is inspecting the buses is not expected to break it to pieces to examine the parts. A bus is examined to see if it is in good running order and the test requires a certain amount of knowledge which one driving or using a motor vehicle with a certain amount of interest ought to possess. The Commissioner's hands are, no doubt, too full and unless he is an industrious man he cannot cope with the work.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Then I am competent to say whether the wheels are shaky.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Yes, you are, if you know enough about the working of a motor vehicle. An Inspector will only see whether the wheels are all right, the brakes effective and the exhaust pipe works satisfactorily. That is all what he can see.

Dr.A. G. Menon.—Suppose the Commissioner does not know all these provisions.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—He will not undertake the work and ought not to. You must throw him into the sea.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So you say the Commissioner should be thrown into the sea. You say a Commissioner with this qualification will have to be appointed so far as motor vehicles are concerned.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—If he is to be a Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I said the Commissioner of Police.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—He ought not to take that subject.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Training may be given in Vellore. Are you given training in motor mechanism?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I should think it is an anomaly that a man without any professional qualification should be authorised to grant brake certificates to persons who may break the heads of many by careless driving. The practice here, in Cochin, wasthat the District Magistrate was issuing brake certificates and the Inspector of Factories, Boilers and Prime Movers was examining the brakes before certificates were issued. He is an expert officer under the District Magistrate

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

I do not know why the Government changed this practice. And at the beginning, no fees also were collected. That is my information. I speak subject to correction. I am told the then Diwan ordered that the fees would be paid to the Inspector when fees are begun to be levied. It was during the time of the present Police Commissioner that fee was first collected. The best course will be to authorise the Inspector of Factories and Boilers to grant the brake certificates. He is an officer who travels throughout the State. In the course of the inspection of factories, he visits every nook and corner of the State. He has got all the necessary professional qualifications. I think that will be the best course, and he has been doing it at the very beginning. That is all with regard to the topic in hand.

I wish to take this opportunity of publicly acknowledging the great services which our present Commissioner has done for the improvement of the Police Force of the State during his regime. The Police has now more love than fear. It is all due to the untiring zeal of that friendly personality who is about to leave us, and I wish Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur good luck and bright prospects in future on behalf of the people of Cochin..

Dr. A. G. Menon.— I endorse every word said by the Hon'ble Member for the Jenmies in the matter of complimenting the Commissioner on behalf of my Party and on my own behalf.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezuthassan.—Although the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department has given some sort of assurance, I cannot take it as an assurance given by the Government as having no objection for having a special officer for the grant of brake certificates. For, as expressed by him, he is quite indifferent in the matter as he is leaving the State service in a few days. I wish to bring to the notice of the House the fact that it is not a case of our grudging any particular individual to take the amount of the brake certificate fees that made this proposition to be brought before this House. It is in the interest of the efficiency of the service that the point is brought before the Council. There is the Commissioner of Police with a lot of work that legitimately falls to him, and unless it be a person of the type of our out-going Commissioner, it will be impossible for an ordinary type of man to discharge the duties of the Police Commissioner and also to look to the extra work of brake inspection. The remuneration of Rs. 25 for every bus that is inspected and that for a couple of minutes only may be an inducement to take up this extra work. But this is done at the sacrifice of his legitimate duties. I speak this from experience. When buses

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

are taken to the Commissioner for the issue of brake certificates, in the midst of his multifarious duties, down he comes from his office table, gets into the bus, asks the driver just to take a round and asks him to apply the brake when any turning is reached. With this he is satisfied. For six months in the ordinary line and for three months in the ghat section the buses are free. Whether the brakes do work properly subsequently, is not known to the Commissioner and he does not care to know it. If things go wrong, there may be prosecution for improper running. But that is a different matter. The point is a full-timed officer who will look into this affair and only into this affair must be appointed. From the standpoint of money, the collection made now for the issue of brake certificates will certainly be sufficient and perhaps more to meet the expenses of employing an officer on a good salary. Even if a man be appointed with proper knowledge of the subject on a monthly salary of Rs. 100, it will be a gain to the Government to appoint such an officer. The extra money now allowed to fall into the pockets of the Commissioner should not be allowed to stand in the way of the legitimate duties to be performed by him. It is in this spirit that I rise to support this cut motion, and I urge upon the Government that a special officer with special knowledge of the subject and who will have sufficient time to look into these matters should be appointed to examine the brakes. It should not be given to the Commissioner whoever the incumbent is. We are not concerned with the person but we object to the principle.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ പി. കുണ്ടുകുളം.—ബ്രേക്ക് സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു് ബോയിലർ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരെ ഏല്പിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ആ സംഖ്യ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിലേക്കു് മുതൽകൂട്ടുന്നതിനും അതിലേക്കു് ഒരു പ്രത്യേകചിലവു ചെയ്യാതെ കഴിക്കുന്നതിനും —ഈ കൂടുതൽ ജോലിക്കുവേണ്ടി അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു് വല്ലതും കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുത്താൽപോലും തരക്കേടില്ല—ഇടയാകുമെന്നാണു് തോന്നുന്നതു്. അദ്ദേഹം ബസ്സുകൾ പരിശോധിച്ചു് ഡിസ്പ്ലിക്കു് മജിസ്ട്രേട്ടിനു് റിപ്പോർട്ടു് അയച്ചു് അതുവഴി സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റു കൊടുക്കുന്നതും നന്നായിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—സർ, ബസ്സുകളുടെ ബ്രേക്ക് സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു് ബോയിലർഇൻസ്പെക്ടരെഅധികാരപ്പെടുത്തേണമെന്നുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശത്തെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കും സംശയം പറയുവാനുണ്ടു്. ബോയിലർ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ ഈ ജോലിക്കുടി ചെയ്യുന്നുവെന്നുപറയുന്ന ആ 'ആദ്യകാലത്തു് കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തു് ആകെഅഞ്ചോ ആറോ ബസ്സുകളെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നുള്ളു. ഇപ്പോൾകൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തുമാത്രം റജിസ്റ്റർ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള മോട്ടോർവാഹനങ്ങൾ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഏകദേശം ൪൫൦ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. അതിൽ കാറും ബസ്സും ഉൾപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ലെന്നില്ല. നൂറ് ബസ്സുകളെ കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തുള്ളൂ എന്ന് പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണർ അവർകൾ ഒരു ഉദ്ദേശക്കണക്ക് പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ആകെ ൪൫൦ മോട്ടോർ വാഹനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്ന് ഞാനും ഒരു ഏകദേശക്കണക്കു പറയുന്നു. അതിൽ പകുതിയോളമെങ്കിലും ബസ്സുകൾ ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്ന് കരുതാം. ഓരൊ ബസ്സിനും ബ്രേക്ക് സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ വകയിൽ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ൨൫ രൂപാവീതം ഫീസ്സ് ഉണ്ടെന്നും കമ്മീഷണർ സമ്മതിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഈ ബസ്സുകളെല്ലാം ൨൫ രൂപാവീതം നിശ്ചയമായും കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരിക്കും. അതിനുംപുറമെ ബ്രിട്ടീഷിലും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലും റജിസ്റ്റർചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ബസ്സുകൾ നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തുകൂടെ സഞ്ചരിക്കണമെന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവയ്ക്കും പണം കൊടുക്കണം. അങ്ങനേയും പലബസ്സുകളും ബ്രേക്ക് സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് ഇവിടെനിന്നും എടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ കരുതുന്നതു്. ആ വക പണം കമ്മീഷണർ അവർകൾ വാങ്ങുന്നതിനെപറ്റി അല്ല ഞാനിവിടെ പറയുന്നതു്. ഇതുയും വരവുള്ള സ്ഥിതിക്ക് ഒരു പ്രത്യേകം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെതന്നെ നിയമിക്കേണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് പ്രധാനവാദവിഷയം. സംഖ്യ എത്രയെങ്കിലും ചിലവായിക്കൊള്ളട്ടെ. എന്നാലും ആ ചിലവുകഴിച്ച് പെരുതായ ഒരു തുകയെങ്കിലും ബാക്കിവെക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു് ഞാൻ തീച്ചപറയാം. ഇപ്പോൾ ബസ്സുകൾ വഴിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്ക് ബ്രേക്ക് സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ കൊടുക്കുന്ന ചുമതല കൂടി അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഏല്പിച്ചാൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സ്വന്തം ജോലിയും ഇതുംകൂടി ശരിയായിനടക്കുകയില്ല. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു് പലയിടത്തും സഞ്ചരിച്ചു പോകുവാനുണ്ടായിരിക്കും. ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ ഇതിലേക്ക് വെക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് യാതൊരു നഷ്ടവും സർവ്വമെണ്ടിനു് ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ലെന്നു് വീണ്ടും പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇക്കാര്യം സർവ്വമെണ്ടിന്റെ ആലോചനയിൽ പെടുമെന്നും വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—May I know whether brake certificates are required for cars also, I mean, cars running on hire ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—No, no.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether Travancore buses require this ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Brake certificates are required all the world over.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—What is the assurance, please?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The point will be considered by the Government.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Favourably or unfavourably ? We want a special officer to be appointed.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Now the question is whether they are going to take away the power of issuing brake certificates from the Police Commissioner and invest it in another officer.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It has not come up for the consideration of the Government yet. Now that it has been brought to the notice of the Government it will be considered.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Since the Government is not prepared to accept this, I think it is better that we know the sense of the House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes, we are of opinion that an Inspector be apppointed for that purpose.

Dr. A. G. Menon. - A Special Officer with any designation.

Question put:—'*That a Special Officer be appointed for the purpose of inspecting buses and issuing brake certificates*'.

Question put and agreed to.

The Demand under 'XVII—Police' of Rs. 1,80,396 minus Re. 1 was granted.

Demand No. XXVII—Public Works—Rs. 11,70,034.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 14,30,800 for Public Works in this State. The grant for 1103 was Rs. 12,73,400 and the Revised Estimate was for Rs. 12,65,000. The increase is about a lakh and a half. I may say at once that this increase is almost wholly due to the lump sum allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 which Government have been pleased to place at my disposal in accordance with the forward policy in Irrigation which the Government is initiating. The other principal increase is the increase of Rs. 30,000 in the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering section. This is due to the increase in the allotment for Mattancheri Water Works—an increase of Rs. 38,500.

Government have been accused for hoarding up surpluses. The surplus in 1102 and 1103 was wholly due to the unexpected increase in Customs receipts. The Hon'ble Members have admitted there are windfalls. A windfall cannot and should not be utilised for expenditure until it is in our hands. Expenditure once incurred is very likely to become recurring while windfalls may not be so. Caution is, therefore, wanted in utilising them. Further, the Special Finance Committee has advised that the Public Works Department should budget only for 10 lakhs every year and this year we have budgetted for 14 lakhs, that is, 4 lakhs in excess. This excess comes out of the surplus. Speaking for my Department, I am quite satisfied with the share that I have got from the windfall, and from what fell from the mouth of the Hon'ble Members, I am sure

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

that they also will be gratified that the extra lakh of rupees is given for irrigation. I am also sure that all who know Mattancheri and the state of water supply and sanitation there will be glad that Government has been able to allot Rs. 88,500 for the Mattancheri Water works. I must, however, say that, even if the money be spent, it will be useless unless the sister Municipality of Ernakulam co-operates with me and spares the water wanted for Mattancheri out of the total quantity delivered at Ernakulam. Mattancheri is now agitated by the fear of plague in addition to its normal sufferings, and I am sure the people of Ernakulam will gladly give me this co-operation. I must also inform the Hon'ble Members from the mofussil that, unlike Ernakulam, Mattancheri is willing to pay fully for the water delivered at Mattancheri.

Coming to details, the Civil Engineering section absorbs Rs. 11,64,416 and this is made up of about 4 lakhs for Communication, 4 lakhs for buildings, 2 lakhs for irrigation and the rest for Miscellaneous works, and the usual Tools and Plant, Petty construction, Repairs, etc.

Communication.—Out of the 4 lakhs for communication over two lakhs is for original works. The details are before the House. I have heard and replied to the criticisms made during the general discussion of the budget and I believe the Hon'ble Members have had most of their doubts cleared. I shall select only a few works for special comment.

The Cochin—Alleppy Road.—The portion this State has to do is the 3 miles from Pallivirutti to Edacochi ferry. When I took charge of the Department, I was set on a race to overtake Travancore. But I am afraid I shall lose the race. For one thing Travancore had considerable start. For another, I have to make a fairly big bridge over the Pa.tinithodu. I adopted a design involving C. I. Piles which I thought could easily be got. But I miscalculated and the delay in getting the C. I. materials delays the whole work in the second of the three miles. The other two miles are nearly finished. But neither Cochin nor Travancore has as yet made any provision about the rather wide ferry between Edacochi and Kottapuram. When the road in both States is ready for traffic, which I hope will be before Christmas, I think we may rely on Travancore to utilise one of the numerous jungars now at use on the Ernakulam—Vaikkam route. If the traffic of cars and buses be very large, we may have to use a motor ferry to carry vehicles across. I have asked an Engineering firm for a design.

The Nelliampathi Ghat Road.—I have already explained to the House what is being done. I have just written to the Govern.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ment asking them to cancel the Rs. 55,000 estimate and have submitted an exhaustive report with an estimate for the first $2\frac{5}{8}$ miles of road on which at this moment probably 500 coolies are working. I expect the earthwork on this section to full road width will be finished before the ensuing harvest and the road itself fit for vehicles before Christmas. As I said on Wednesday, I have traced the whole road, right up to Nadugani, the highest point on it, and am sure of it all except at the one steep rock called Nadugani Odavoo. Based on the estimate for $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, I have made a forecast of the total expenditure for the whole road including culverts. I have separately allowed for the bridges and the lengths requiring special treatment like the Nadugani Odavoo and also made provision for the metalling to be done ultimately. I have also estimated the total cost of investigation including what has already been incurred and also for the staff. I have placed before Government the statistics of the land available and probable income derivable from the project including tolls and the share of the duty on tea and I have suggested that the land be again advertised. The response to that advertisement from tea planters, Indian and European, must determine the future of the road. It depends on the prospective tea-planters, Indian and European, whether the land is taken up and the road made.

The road might take four years to complete. It might take perhaps another ten years before the whole area of 13 thousand acres is planted up with tea. I am old and cannot in the usual course hope to live to see that day. I pray God all of you may live till then. I am sure most of my Hon'ble friends will live to see those days.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You will surely live to see all these things.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Well, fifteen years hence, sitting at Ernakulam, they may drink of the cup that cheers but not inebriates made from indigenous leaf from the Cochin State grown on the Nelliampathy Hills. Or if their young and indigenous blood weltering in the stifling atmosphere of the low country wants cooling, they may rush in a Rolls-Royce car to the salubrious heights of the Nelliampathy plateau. But in those days I hope some of those who enjoy such things will remember that in the hot season of 1928 a decrepit man with "old and alien blood" escaped from the Pinjrapole at Trichur and several time scaled up the steep slopes of the Nelliampathies, holding on to the roots of trees and slided down on steep rocks for the purpose of aligning the Nelliampathy Ghat Road. On one occasion, however, I saw a she-bear

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

on these hills and so I would not advise the Hon'ble Member for Jews to go there. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Why?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—He knows the Old Testament better than I can ever hope to know it. I read it in a translation. He reads it in the original Hebrew. So he ought to know the story of Elisha and the forty-two children, the moral of which is that she-bears have a special fondness for young Israelites who mock old bald men. (*Roars of laughter.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't mock them. I only say they are not fit for service.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Government are aware that many parts of the State, the Mukundapuram and Talappalli Taluks, particularly, stand in want of roads, not long roads but several of them. We have provided Rs. 35,300 for roads in these Taluks this coming year, and more roads are prospected and will be made in the P. W. D., and similar activities by Panchayats will also be generally helped. The matter of roads in the coastal tracts is a new development. We are making the Cochin-Alleppey road and the experience gained there of making cheap roads in these sandy tracts will, I hope, lead to more roads in such tracts, such as the Hon'ble Members are asking for.

One word about our maintenance, *i. e.*, the method of our doing it. The method now in vogue is on lines laid down by Mr. Krishnan Nayar, the veteran Road Engineer, as improvements on the system previously followed. His methods are religiously followed. The amount per mile varies according to the traffic and the nature of the road. The amounts are fixed by experience from time to time. The "maintenance" figure on each road is the minimum found sufficient and necessary by previous experience. The present amounts were fixed in 1923. The amount of materials is fixed by assuming that the road wants re-coating at intervals of 2 to 5 years according to traffic. The material is collected on contracts obtained by open tenders and we manage to get very favourable rates. The material is bought in a definite fixed period, January to June. The labour for spreading is also employed in a fixed period of the year, June to December, "the rainy months." The small balance wanted for running repairs is spread throughout the year as occasion demands according to the state of the road. Additional "special renewals" to the surface are arranged, judged by the information before the budget is made. The amount of these special renewals is supposed to be reviewed once in five years, and the maintenance figure is raised according

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to the special renewals wanted in the preceding 5 years. Such a quinquennial review is overdue now, and that is the reason why "special renewals" figure prominently in our budget, and that also accounts for the bad state of a few roads, such as the Vaniyampara Road, which apart from this suffer from natural disadvantages of soil, etc. The Hon'ble Members must also remember the unexpected and unprecedented increase of road traffic in motor cars, buses and lorries, which has been a marked feature in the last quinquennium. I have already explained to the Hon'ble Members the pernicious effect of the practice of heaping metal on the roads, a nuisance to traffic and a potent cause for the deterioration of the road. When I came the contracts had been let out and I could not punish contractors for a fault not prescribed in the contracts or for a practice they had been used to for long. A clause will be inserted in further contracts to mitigate the nuisance, *viz.*, that before heaping metal on the trafficable portion of the road, say 7 feet from the centre line, special permission has to be obtained. The great difficulty in preventing the heaping of metal on the road is the narrowness of the space available. The practice of breaking metal in the trafficable part of the road will be vigorously stopped. I do hope that Municipalities will follow suit. Uniformity of rules will be of great help in changing a longstanding practice.

The Council rose for lunch at 2 p. m and re-assembled at 3 p. m. with the Diwan-President in the Chair.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Coming now to buildings. I have always been of the same opinion as several of the Hon'ble Members who have spoken already and who intend to introduce cut motions. I prefer Communications and Irrigation to Buildings. But we must spread our educational activities and improve our standard of education and its equipment. We have earned a place in the fore-front of all the other parts of India for our educational status. We have to keep up our place, and that cannot be done unless we spend comparatively large sums on educational buildings. The allotment in 1103 was Rs. 1,03,223. This year I have provided only Rs. 73,785 and Mr. Matthai is angry with me. More than one large building —I may say particularly the Girls' School of Chittur for which he wanted very much —has been left out.

Coming to medical buildings, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has already explained to you the great necessity of improvements to the medical conveniences and up-to-date equipment of the central General Hospital at Ernakulam. Along with these, especially if we have in view a programme of preventive medicine, we must have distributed throughout the smaller towns

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

and villages small rural dispensaries. One large work is the Leper Asylum at Adur. It is highly necessary that the poor lepers should be moved from Venduruthy, not only for their own sakes, but also for the activities in the near future, connected with the Harbour. The Hon'ble Members know how one set of buildings constructed at Anappara proved abortive. The work on the Asylum at Adur was started in the current year. A road to the place is finished all except a bridge which I hope to open in two or three weeks. One set of buildings is fast in progress. The rest have to be made in 1104. It is not possible to transfer the lepers except in large batches, and so there is urgent necessity of completing four sets of buildings if possible in 1104. I despaired of finding funds for it. But the Government have generously provided Rs. 40,000 for them. The total amount for medical buildings in 1104 is Rs. 1,12,100 against Rs. 67,900 in 1103. What has been saved in educational buildings has been given for medical buildings.

The need for more accommodation in buildings for the Judicial Department brought to the front by the Hon'ble Members will be borne in mind for action in the future.

Irrigations.—I have already indicated how it was that an initial lump sum allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 over and above the usual figure has been obtained for Irrigation. The only fault the Hon'ble Members can find about this allotment is that estimates are not ready. A staff costing about Rs. 1,000 per month has been working for some time on the investigation of Irrigation works. Two of the suggested schemes were found on preliminary levels to be unsound and further investigation stopped. Our field work for the Thannikkudam Reservoir Scheme is nearing completion. That for the schemes for diverting the Manali and the Karuvannur rivers are well in hand. Both schemes look promising. In addition, we have a very promising reservoir scheme at Nemmara, the field work and estimating for which was done some years ago. What has to be done is to select which of these schemes should be taken up in the hot weather of 1104, and that is why we have been unable to give details of estimates. The Chalakkudi Scheme will take much longer to investigate. The possibility of this will, as the Hon'ble Members are aware, depend on our negotiations with Travancore. The estimate for the Konath river is ready. It amounts to Rs. 18,170 but half of this will come from Travancore, the lands protected being equal in both States, *viz.*, 800 acres each. Apart from big and new schemes of this sort, a great deal remains to be done in the way of improvements to small irrigation works, *chiras* and *Eries*.

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The wants of the existing wet lands, *kole* lands, and lands near the sea-board excepted, are best met by small improvements to these *chiras* and *Eries* and minute attention to these wants is a great desideratum. The pace of improvements to the flourishing irrigation systems in Chittur, which was set up some time ago, will be kept up. We allot Rs. 17,500 for this.

Coming to the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering section, Water Works is the main item. The principal works are the continuation of the Nemmara pipe line, and the Mattancheri Water Works. The other principal work is a reservoir near Idappalli on the line of the Rising Main. This will be necessary to safe-guard the supply at Ernakulam, when we draw off water for Mattancheri also. The Engine Plant at the Head Works has been duplicated during the current year. One more deep-well pump at Chowwara, for which Rs. 15,000 has been provided, will insure us against breakdown there. Some steps will have to be taken to economise the consumption at Ernakulam. About this I am just now writing to the Chairman.

One item which really comes under Communication deserves mention, *viz.*, internal navigation. We allot only Rs. 8,650 for various miscellaneous small items, but no work of any magnitude is taken up. Our lines of internal navigation are deteriorating. The Standing Finance Committee has made a passing reference to it. The Member for Kodungallur was the only Member who seriously called attention to it, but he too has thought only of his own constituency. With the completion of the Harbour, internal navigation, especially of *vallams*, in our canals and smaller lagoons will become important. We collect Rs. 25,000 as license fees mostly from *vallams* and we hardly do anything in the way of dredging and maintaining waterways for them. This is a matter wanting attention in the future.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Do you mean to put reinforced signboards for all taluks?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I think the allotment for signboards occur in the printed budget in more than one place; reinforced concrete signboards are cheaper than iron or wood.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What is the total amount spent in Ernakulam Girls' School buildings? I am asking this so that we may bring out cuts when the question of latrine and tiffin room accommodation comes.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—That file was practically closed before my taking charge. Perhaps I may obtain the information now.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.— Rs. 87,237 for the building and land acquisition.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No. 141. In that Talappalli Taluk Chowghat road, from what part to what part? It is written eight miles. The estimate is made at the rate of Rs. 590 per mile for eight miles and hundred yards.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The road that is in the British frontier in Kadavallur to Chattukulam. There is tremendous traffic on that road. That is one of the important roads.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is it the maintenance of Tattamangalam town roads that is meant?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Town roads are maintained by Municipalities. Outside the Municipalities is what is meant. Within the Municipalities we don't provide. So it does not include Municipal area.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I shall confine to these items in the course of the cut motions.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—A point of order, Sir. Page 28, Appendix. A tank in the compound of the Nambudiri has been made non-votable. May I know how it is made non-votable?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I shall enlighten the House. That is under a contract. I remember to have noted that in the Special Finance Committee's report. They are bound to do it.

Motion No. 1.

A. Civil Engineering.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 87,483 for "Establishment" by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to ascertain from the Government how far they are bound to open out the roads maintained by public money to all castes and creeds of His Highness' subjects. Going through the records, I find that the Diwan-President said in one connection "so far as the Government is concerned, I can tell you this much that, in respect of roads maintained out of public money, they must be open to all, but in respect to roads which the Government want particularly to be reserved, no public funds should be utilised for that". And in that connection it was also said that two roads particularly were not open to the public, I mean to all classes of the public, because they happened to be close to two temples. The Diwan said that hereafter money would be spent for their maintenance from either the Trippunittura temple fund or from the Kudalmanickam Devaswam. I do not know whether this has been translated into action and whether the

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roads in question are now maintained by public money or by private funds. I wish to point out that lately I heard that a certain Nambudiri gentleman of the Mukundapuram Taluk was attempting to secure sanction from the Government to put up a sign-board prohibiting Christians, Ezhuvas, and members of the depressed communities from making use of a public road thrown open so far to all classes of people. I do not know whether the statement of the President that, certain roads not open to the public ought to be maintained by private funds, has been misunderstood by him. Probably the Nambudiri has taken into his head that, if he could give an undertaking to maintain hereafter the road in question out of his private funds, he would get the privilege of shutting the road against certain classes of people. If this has been so, he has sadly misunderstood. May I know how this matter stands?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A petition was received here, and it is under inquiry.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—And those two roads referred to, who maintain them now?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The roads referred to are at present maintained by the P. W. D.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—So the promise which had been held out is not carried into action yet? Important and vital matters such as these—such promises—may be earlier translated into action than seen in papers.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—They can give a contribution even though they are maintained by the P. W. D. There is no objection to that.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Contributions from these institutions! Don't take contributions. Can our Government not afford to maintain these roads at their cost and extend them to all castes and throw them open to all? I hope the Government will kindly note that.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു് ഇനി വാദിക്കുവാൻ ഇടവരാത്തമാതിരി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യുവാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെ എന്നാണു് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്? വളരെകാലമായി നടപ്പിലിരിക്കുന്ന ആചാരങ്ങളെ ഒരൊറ്റ ദിവസംകൊണ്ടു് വലിച്ചെറിയണമെന്നു് ഞങ്ങളാരും വാദിക്കുന്നില്ല. മനുഷ്യരുടെ പൂർവ്വാചാരതല്പരത ഒരു ദിവസംകൊണ്ടു് നീങ്ങുമെന്നും വരുന്നതല്ല. ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം സകലരോഡിലും കൂടി സകലരേ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

യും നടക്കുവാൻ അനുവദിക്കണമെന്നാണ് പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം. അവരാൽ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന പ്രതിനിധികളുടെ അഭിപ്രായമാണെങ്കിൽ ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇവിടത്തെ പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം എന്താണെന്ന് ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽതന്നെ പലപ്പോഴും വെളിപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. (*Hear, hear.*) അതിനു് എതിരായി നില്ക്കുന്നതു് വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടാണ്. ഹോസ്റ്റൽ എല്ലാ ജാതികാക്കുമായി തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് പൊതുജന പ്രതിനിധികൾ ഏകകണ്ഠമായി ഈ സഭയിൽ നിശ്ചയം പാസ്സാക്കി. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് അതു സമ്മതിച്ചില്ല. ഈ മാതിരി കാര്യങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു് പറയുവാനും പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുവാനും അധികാരവും ബാധ്യതയും അധികമുള്ളതു് പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കാണ്. ഇതിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നതല്ല നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ചെയ്യുകാണുന്നതു്. പൊതുജനഹിതത്തെ അവഗണിച്ചു് ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങളിലൊന്നും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് മുന്നോട്ടു പോകുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ വലിയ സങ്കടമാണ്. നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ മുദ്രാവാക്യംതന്നെ 'മാനം കുലധനം' എന്നാണ്. മാനം കുലധനമെന്നു പറയുന്നതിൽ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ മാനം, കുലധനം എന്നുമാത്രമല്ല തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകളുടെയും മാനം, കുലധനമായിരിക്കണമെന്നാണ് അവിടത്തെ താല്പര്യമെന്നും മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. അതിനാൽ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകളിൽ ഒരു വിഭാഗത്തിന്റെ മാനത്തിനു് ഭംഗം വരുത്തുന്ന, ന്യായമില്ലാത്ത, ശാസ്ത്രസമ്മതമില്ലാത്ത, അനീതികരമായ, അധർമ്മമായ ആചാരത്തെ മാറ്റുവാൻ നാമെല്ലാവരും കൂടി ശക്തിയായി പ്രവൃത്തിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു് നമുക്കാകെ വലിയ അപമാനമാണ്. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് വിചാരിച്ചാൽ ഇതുക്ഷണം മാറ്റുവാൻ സാധിക്കും. മേലാൽ പബ്ലിക്ക് റോഡുകളിൽ തീണ്ടൽ ആചരിച്ചുകൂടായെന്നു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഒരു കല്പന പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ യാതൊരു ബഹളവും ഉണ്ടാകാതെ അതു് നടപ്പിൽ വരും. ഒരു നമ്പൂതിരി ഇപ്പോൾ റോഡുകെട്ടി അടയ്ക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതു്, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് നയം, റോഡുകൾ എല്ലാവർക്കും തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കരുതെന്നാണെന്നു് തെറ്റിദ്ധരിച്ചായിരിക്കാം, അതിനാൽ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ നില എന്താണെന്നു് ഉടനെ പ്രഖ്യാപനം ചെയ്യണം. ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ പ്രഖ്യാപനം ചെയ്താൽ പോരാ. ഇവിടെ പറയുന്നതു് ഉൾനാടുകളിലുള്ളവർ അറിയുകയില്ല. അവരാണ് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ നയം എന്താണെന്നു് അറിയേണ്ടവർ. അതിനാൽ ഉൾനാടുകളിലുള്ള സാമാന്യജനങ്ങൾക്കു് മനസ്സിലാകുവാൻവേണ്ടി പരസ്യമായി പ്രഖ്യാപനം ചെയ്യണം. മേലാൽ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇക്കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി സങ്കടം പറയുവാൻ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഇടവരുത്തരുതു്. അതിനു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഭയവുണ്ടാകണം. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങളിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു്

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

മുൻനിന്നു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണം. ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായത്തിന്റെ പിന്നിൽ നില്ക്കുന്നതു്. പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം പിടിച്ചു വലിച്ചാലും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് മുന്നോട്ടുവരികയില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അതിൽപരം സങ്കടം എന്താണുള്ളതു്? തുക്കിയും മറും എന്താണു് പറയുന്നതു്? അവിടെ രാജ്യത്തെ പരിഷ്കരിക്കുന്നതിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങളെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടാണു് പിടിച്ചു് മുന്നോട്ടുവലിക്കുന്നതു്. രാജ്യത്തെ പരിഷ്കരിക്കുന്നതിൽ തുക്കി ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് മുന്നണിയിൽനിന്നു് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നു. അവിടെ ജനങ്ങൾ പിന്നാലെയാണു്. അതിനാൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് നിയമനിർമ്മാണശക്തികൊണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങളെ മുന്നോട്ടു വലിച്ചിഴച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നു. ഇവിടെ ഞങ്ങൾ അങ്ങിനെ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നില്ല. ഞങ്ങളോടുകൂടി വരുവാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനോടു് പറയുന്നതേയുള്ളു. ജനങ്ങളോടുകൂടി മുമ്പോട്ടു വരണമെന്നു് പറഞ്ഞു ഇവിടത്തെ പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം ശക്തിയായി പിടിച്ചുവലിച്ചാലും മുന്നോട്ടുവരുവാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു് ഭാവമില്ലെങ്കിൽ 'നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യം പരിഷ്കാരമുള്ളതാണു്, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമുള്ളതാണു്, നിയമസഭയുള്ളതാണു്' എന്നൊക്കെ പറയുന്നതിനു് വല്ല അർത്ഥവുമുണ്ടോ? നമ്മുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു ഒരർത്ഥവുമില്ലെന്നു വരും. പരിഷ്കാരത്തിനു് അർത്ഥമില്ലെന്നു് വരും. നിയമനിർമ്മാണശക്തിക്കു് അർത്ഥമില്ലെന്നു വരും. ഞാൻ ഒരിക്കൽ കൂടി പറയുന്നു. ജനങ്ങളുടെ പൂർവ്വാചാരതല്പരത്തെ ഒരു ദിവസംകൊണ്ടു് പെട്ടെന്നു ഓടിച്ചുകളയേണ്ട. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു വാദം കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നില്ല. പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ സമ്മതിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഉടനെ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുന്നതിനു് ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് തുനിയണമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. മഹാത്മാഗാന്ധി കുറെ മുമ്പു് ഇവിടെ വന്നിരുന്നപ്പോൾ ഏറ്റവും കാര്യമായി മഹാരാജാവു് തിരുമനസ്സിലേയ്ക്കു് ഒരു സന്ദേശമയച്ചതു് ഇവിടെ നാന്നും തീണ്ടലും തൊടിലും കളയണമെന്നാണു്. മഹാത്മാഗാന്ധി അനാവശ്യമായ ഒരു സന്ദേശം തിരുമനസ്സിലേയ്ക്കു് അയക്കുന്ന ഒരു ദേഹമല്ല. എന്തിനു മഹാത്മാഗാന്ധിയുടെ അടുത്തു പോകുന്നു? ഇവിടെ ഇരിയ്ക്കുന്ന ആക്കെങ്കിലും അയിത്തം വേണ്ടതാണെന്നു് പറയുവാൻ ധൈര്യമുണ്ടോ? തീണ്ടൽ ആചാരം ഏതെങ്കിലും പ്രകാരത്തിൽ നിലനിർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകണമെന്നു് പറയുന്നതിനായിട്ടു് ധൈര്യമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ പറയട്ടെ. ഇക്കാലത്തു് അതിനു ആരും ധൈര്യമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. അഞ്ചോ പത്തോ കൊല്ലത്തിനു മുമ്പാണെങ്കിൽ തീണ്ടലിനു് ശാസ്ത്രവും സയൻസും ചരിത്രവും ചിലർ പറയുമായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ അവയെല്ലാം നിഷേധിക്കപ്പെട്ടു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. തീണ്ടലാചാരം ഏതെങ്കിലും ശാസ്ത്രം അനുകൂലി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് ശാസ്ത്രമല്ല. ഏതെങ്കിലും മതം സമ്മതിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് മതമല്ല. തീണ്ടലിനെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ദൈവം അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ആ ദൈവത്തെ ആരും വകവെയ്ക്കുകയില്ല. രാജ്യത്തിൽ ഒരു വലിയ ഭൂരിപക്ഷത്തിന്റെ മാനത്തെ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിക്കുവേണ്ടി ഞാൻ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിനോടു വീണ്ടും വീണ്ടും പറയുന്നു. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സൗകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയല്ല—മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നിയമം അനുസരിച്ചു് അവിടത്തോടു ഭക്തിയോടുകൂടി ജീവിക്കുന്ന ഞങ്ങൾ ഞങ്ങളുടെ രാജ്യത്തിൽ, ഞങ്ങളുടെ മാതൃഭൂമിയിൽ, ഞങ്ങളുടെ ജന്മഭൂമിയിൽ വഴി നടക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടുതന്നെ പറയുന്നതു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു അപമാനം അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്നെ എന്താണു്? ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇതിൽപരം അപമാനകരമായിട്ടുള്ളതു് എന്താണു്? ഞങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നതു് സങ്കടംകൊണ്ടാണെന്നു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. അല്ലാതെ ഏതെങ്കിലും കക്ഷിയായി നിന്നുകൊണ്ടു് ഒരു വിഭാഗം ജനങ്ങളെ മനോവേദനപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നു് കരുതി പറയുന്നതല്ലെന്നു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് അറിയണം, അതിനാണു് ഞാൻ ഇത്രയുമൊക്കെ പറയുന്നതു്. മേലാലെങ്കിലും ഈ നാറിയ സംഗതി നമ്മുടെ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഈ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിലും ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിലും കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഇടവരാത്തമാതിരി തീണ്ടലിനെ—ഇൻഡ്യാ ഒട്ടുക്കുള്ള സകല നേതാക്കന്മാരും ഒത്തൊരുമിച്ചു ഉച്ചാടനം ചെയ്യുവാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്ന ഈ അസംബന്ധ ആചാരത്തെ—നിഷ്കാസനം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു് ഞങ്ങൾ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിനോടു അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. ഇത്രമാത്രമേ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ എനിക്കു് പറയുവാനുള്ളു.

(*The motion was, with leave withdrawn*)

Motions Nos. 2 and 3.

Communications.

Original works.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,000 for 'Experimental tar-macadam'.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for 'Special Renewals to roads'.*

President.—Cut motion No. 2.—Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have already stated in the Finance Committee's meeting that too much of money is spent on unnecessary experiments, and that would be unwise. Tar-macadam on the roads is admittedly a remedy against dust. Why experiment it here? A man who is used to do it can take up a particular road and tar-macadam it. On unnecessary experiments money need not be wasted.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—We should like to have an approximate cost for putting tar-macadam on roads.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The word 'tar-macadam' is used for several kinds of work. Proper pucka tar-macadam is done by heating the metal free of moisture and soaking it in hot tar, so that the tar penetrates into the stone. That is proper tar-macadam. That is very costly, because here tar is very costly. Tar is a bye-product of coal and, therefore, it can be done cheaply in coal producing countries. Here, if we want to buy tar, we must get it from Colombo Gas Works or from England. The price of it is tremendous, and, therefore, people in India are hesitating to attempt to do proper tar-macadam. Fifteen years ago I myself did a small bit of this sort of work in Travancore on a public road near Kuzhithara, at a junction with heavy traffic and that road is even now in good condition. In Madras they have tarred roads but it is not pucka tar-macadam. It is ordinary macadam, on which they sprinkle hot tar. Only the top is soaked. That is a substitute for pucka tar-macadam. The rainfall here is very heavy compared with South Travancore and Madras. How a tarred road will behave in the monsoon has to be tried. I want to try a bit of road somewhere near Ernakulam, so that it may be criticised by the Members.

There is another thing. To-day a gentleman from Bengal told me that he was surprised to see that people here don't wear shoes. He asked me why. I replied that there were few thorns here. Also we have to go often through water. So, wearing shoes is not very necessary or convenient here. Men and women rarely wear shoes here. If you walk on a tar-macadam road, it is very hot. Tarred roads are good to prevent dust but very uncomfortable for pedestrians with bare feet. Therefore, what we have to reserve on a tarred road is ample space for pedestrians, men, women and children, to walk on. Therefore, what I would like to do is to leave a length of road lined. I won't adopt the pucka tar-macadam. It is far too costly. I shall do the cheaper kind of tarred road and see what the public thinks before I spend much money. I would select some place near Ernakulam which can be well criticised.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I withdraw with the consent of the House.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Can it be tried on the temple round at Trichur, instead of experimenting at Ernakulam? There is a road running round the Trichur temple.

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President.—It is a Municipal road. The Municipality should do the work there.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I wanted to do it outside Ernakulam Municipality. At present there is no love lost between me and the Ernakulam Municipality.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—What is roughly the cost of the experiment that you propose to do at Ernakulam ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The total cost of the experiment is shown in the budget. I cannot give exact rates.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Can you roughly tell us? Never mind about the actual cost.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It will be about five or six times the cost of ordinary macadam.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will it last very long ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes, it will last very long.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Will it melt in the hot season ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No, it would not melt if properly done.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for 'Special Renewals to roads'.*

President.—Motion No. 3, Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We find special renewals to many roads are also budgetted for.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The Public Works Member has explained it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I beg leave to withdraw.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Motion Nos. 4—5.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,500 for 'Opening Karlam-Kizhuttani Road, etc.'*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for 'Karuppadanna Road to Palakadavu River' by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 4, Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That motion was tabled just to show that without even a cost statement a road is undertaken—the road in question.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—That is Karlam-Kizhuttani road.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In the budget you don't give any estimate of cost. No. 4—Karlam-Kizhuttani road. I object to such a thing. Without any cost statement we don't know what we are doing.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I have promised.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—In this particular case, can it not be made to wait till the whole estimate is ready?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—About that particular road, I might say that the permanent Diwan went there and inspected the place. He practically promised the people that the road will be done soon. He only asked me to go over to the place to see if the cost can be reduced.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Item No. 26 in the list. Rs. 3,000 was budgetted in the revised estimate. We have not spent any portion of that money.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—If you want, I will give the information. The estimate we have got is for Rs. 13,700 and that was why the permanent Diwan asked me to go over to the place myself and verify if all that money is wanted.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I ask whether any portion was spent out of Rs. 3,000 allotted. Then you are budgetting only Rs. 5,400 for 1104.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The work has not been taken up.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In how many years will it be finished?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—That I cannot say. If it be Rs. 13,700, it will take three years.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You promised a road to the people, and as a matter of fact you are immediately coming and saying that you want to provide Rs. 3,000 in the revised estimate. The people want a road, and in order to meet the wishes of the people, you at once put Rs. 3,000 in the revised estimate without any allotment. You don't spend a single pie in the year at all.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The Panchayat Superintendent tells me that they have done with the roads and practically only the bridge remains to be done. So that, probably this amount will be sufficient.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There is only one small causeway.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am glad that you agreed to the people's wishes, and provided Rs. 3,000, and I am informing the House that not a single pie of Rs. 3,000 was spent in 1103, and after Rs. 3,000 has been spent for the work this year, there will be a similar provision for next year. Now, as it stands, you are doing work for Rs. 3,000 in 1104, and you will have to go to 1105 and 1106.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The balance can be provided in 1104.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—With the consent of the Council I withdraw. I only wanted to bring these facts to our notice.

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(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for 'Karuppadanna Road to Palakadavu River' by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 5, Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—This also suffers from the same thing. Rs. 3,000 in 1103, Rs. 1,500 in 1104 and the balance nobody knows what it is, when it is to be spent, &c. No. 5 in the agenda. The allotment is Rs. 2,000. That is item 28 in Appendix B. Page 4. It may be to the road from Karuappadanna to Palakkadavu river. No estimate, no cost statement, nothing but Rs. 2,000 is provided now. Why it is provided, what for it is provided, no information was available in the Standing Finance Committee. I asked for information, but it was said that it would be made ready in the Council. You simply put figures.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We will pass on. Let it be found out.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—We need not waste time.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 6.

Original Works—Total.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,18,354 by Rs. 10.*

Mr. K. J. Antony.—I have tabled this motion to point out the necessity of opening a new road in Kumbalangy and in Mundamvelli. These places, owing to the location of so many public institutions, such as one High School, two or three Lower Secondary Schools, one Industrial School, one Government Girls' School and three or four Primary Schools, have become most thickly peopled. Owing to the crowded location of these schools, the students will have to go up and down every day in dry sun-burnt sand. So I humbly request that we may be granted new roads in Kumbalangy.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—I support it.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—This road will become a branch road from the Cochin-Alleppy road when it is done. Is it not a road on which vehicles can go that is wanted by the Hon'ble Member, I mean, the road on which motor cars or bicycles can go? That can be done only after the Cochin-Alleppy road has been done up to that place,—Alleppy on the other side and Cochin on this side. That will be done in course of time.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 7.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,18,354 by Rs. 10.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I avail myself of this token motion to place before this House the most pathetic story of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

nearly 15,000 people of the Pariyaram and Kodasseri villages in the Mukundapuram Taluk. They have been agitating for a road to Chalakkudi through the "*Pallipurath padam*" (പള്ളിപ്പുറത്തുപാടം) for nearly the last 25 years, the road in question covering only a distance of two furlongs the rest having been done by the Panchayats already. These two furlongs fall on wet land. The Panchayat could not possibly undertake that work, and there is also a small bridge or embankment to be constructed. Altogether it may cost only Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000 to the Government. On this question, the people have been requesting the Government practically every year for the last 25 years or so, and every time they were given hopes. In 1089 they were replied "the petitioners are informed that the matter of opening the road is under the consideration of the Darbar". Very nice reply! In 1091 they were told "the request will be considered when orders are passed on the question of communications after receipt of the Road Committee's report." They lived in hopes! In 1920 the answer was "the petition will be sent to the Chief Engineer for consideration." Not very discouraging !! In 1095 "the petitioners are informed that the work will be taken up next year, if funds permit." Another ray of hope !!! Then in 1921 "the work will be considered in 1098. The Chief Engineer will be requested to provide for the road in 1099". Years have rolled on like this and the Government have all along been treating the matter like this—I mean, in a most light manner. So, from the story I have narrated, can it not be imagined how the road is felt as an utter necessity by the people and how scanty is the consideration the Government have been paying to this question so far? Sir, I have been personally going and seeing these places and I might say that the necessity felt is nothing small. These 15,000 villagers have to go to Chalakkudi for their nearest Railway Station, nearest High School and nearest hospital. The market, the Registration Office, the Tramway Work-shop and other important institutions are all found at Chalakkudi. Even for an urgent delivery case they have to run up to the Chalakkudi Hospital. If this road is opened it will be a matter of 2 miles distance only from Pariyaram to Chalakkudi. As it is, if one were to come to Chalakkudi by the existing Kanjirappalli road, it means treading 12 miles through and through The Government can very easily meet this absolute requirement of 15,000 people, felt by them as a "*necessity of life*" by spending nearly Rs. 5,000. It is a grave injustice that this all-important question still remains unsolved in spite of 25 years' continued requests. If you look into the budget of 1104 it will be found that Rs. 10,000 have been allotted for the construction of a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

tiffin shed for the Girls' High School at Ernakulam. Could not the Government put off this allotment for a year or two and utilise the amount for redressing this long-felt grievance? I plead for mercy, good sense and justice!!!

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, about the tiffin shed, may I offer a word of explanation? There is misapprehension about it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I rise to support the Member for Chalakkudi. It is a matter of pity that we could provide Rs. 10,000 for a tiffin shed whereas we could not provide Rs. 5,000 for a vitally needed road. Let people walk about. As a matter of fact, two or 2½ furlongs of new road is all that is required to save people from a detour of 10 or 12 miles. It is not only to reach the railway line that they have to walk this long distance, but even to go to the hospital in extreme cases, as my Honourable friend referred to. Are we to continue saying "no money this year" in important matters like this?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—They could find money if they want.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—So that, I say, if you cannot find all these Rs. 6,000 in a lump, although I apprehend we have got plenty of funds, a few thousands of rupees may be given and the land may be acquired. I understand that the owners of the land do not allow people to walk along that direction. Next year metal it, in the third year put up the bridge. Let us at least open up the path so that people may walk about along it.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Sir, I too support this motion. If anywhere elections had been fought on lines of local needs, it was in Chalakkudi. This was the particular road and that is why such enthusiasm has been shown by the mover. Of course, I was there for some time. I know the places for more than five or six years. The road that is now suggested is one of the greatest needs of the place. So I too support this.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—On a point of information. I may inform the House that all private people who own *Pandaravaka* lands are willing to assign them to the Panchayats to do the needful. There are only a few acres of *jenmom* lands. If this is acquired, at least people can walk on without any inconvenience.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I understand from the Superintendent of Panchayats that he has addressed the Government, who moves the D. P. W. about this road.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Would you consider it in 1104? I should like to know whether it will be considered by the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Whether he has made any enquiries and whether a report has been submitted?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is an estimate already with the Government. It will be sent to the Chief Engineer. He has to take action for that. Some bridge or something has to be constructed.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Let the lands be acquired.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The estimate submitted by the Superintendent of Panchayats has been sent to the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer has made an investigation and submitted a report about that place.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran. Has any report been submitted by the Chief Engineer?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The work will be divided between the P. W. D. and the Panchayats. The road will be done by the Panchayats and the D. P. W. will do the bridge and the arrangement is being done between us.

Mr. A. B. Salem. –The only thing that I wish to know is whether the Government will do something in 1104. At least consider that question. What is the use of saying all these, how you are going to do and all that?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No provision has been made for 1104 for this purpose.

Mr. A. B. Salem. Whether you will kindly note and make a provision? Yes, you can make a provision. If Government is willing, it may make provision.

Did you not make a provision of Rs. 15,000 for water supply in Mattancheri?

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—They can spend money if they want.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Acquire the land.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Departmental officers are moving in the matter. Government will look into the matter.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—What about the acquisition of the plot? From the budget I can understand that no provision has been made. Whether the Government would kindly consider and allot something at least for the acquisition of the land so that people can walk on? That at least should be done.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It will be considered.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—In the face of the assurance, I beg leave of the House to withdraw.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 8.

Communications—Total.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,95,167 by Re. 1.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—As I am not well, may I remain seated, Sir?

President.—Yes.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—The allotment of Rs. 3,95,167 to be reduced by Re. 1, is a cut motion to show that adequate attention is not paid by the Public Works Department for the proper maintenance of roads. (*Hear, hear.*) Bigger allotments must be made in the budget for trunk roads especially. Only Rs. 8,445 is provided for the proper maintenance of the Vaniampara road which has very heavy traffic. This amount must be considerably increased. Only Rs. 25,000 is allotted this year, *i. e.*, 1104, for Nelliampathy Ghat road. This is totally insufficient.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—About the maintenance I said that there is 5 years' programme. The revision of the maintenance allotment, I know, will come on soon and, therefore, the rates will be increased and so on. For Nelliampathy, as I said, we have begun with Rs. 25,000 allotment. If the response to our notification about the land is liberal, we should be able to allow more money.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the collection from that road?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Which road do you mean?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The road that goes to Kutiran.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is enormous.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Do you realise the amount collected from the road? There is very heavy traffic. Why not spend a little more?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It is a very large figure. Rs. 85,000 for the whole taluk.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—300 or 400 carts come from the Pollachi side.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The rates now used were fixed in 1923 according to the programme. The rate will be revised in 1928. That is 5 years' programme. During these five years the cart traffic increased much more. We will revise and increase the allotment. That is about Vaniampara. About Nelliampathy I have said.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Within what time do you expect this land to be taken up? If it is taken up, within what time do you expect to do it, before you spend any money?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—What time do you want?

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—I don't want any time personally, because I am interested in it.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—What time do you think will be fair to speculate? Only when our lands will be

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

taken up. 10,000 acres are intended to be taken up. One company can do that.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Within a few months people will come to know that Rs. 25,000 is being spent.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—That is all what they want.

President.—Have you withdrawn?

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Yes, Sir. I withdraw with leave.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Before going to the next resolution I would request whether, by a switch in the electric plant here, some lighting accommodation will be provided. For, some Members do not speak loud, and it is very difficult to make out. If we could see each other's face we can make out better. A few lights may be provided if it is not very inconvenient.

Motions Nos. 9—15.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,95,167 by Re. 1.*

Buildings - Original Works.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 690 and Rs. 700 for 'Vaccination Depots at Ernakulam and Mattancheri.'*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,850 for 'item 185.'*

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for '188—Medical Department, Appendix B'.*

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for '188—Medical Department, Appendix B'.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for '188—Medical Department, Appendix B'.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for 'acquisition of sites north of the General Hospital.'*

President.—Motion No. 9, Mr. Ikkanda Warriar.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I have tabled this motion in order to bring to the notice of the Government the inconvenience caused to the public by the collection of metals on the sides of the roads. I understand an allotment has been made in the budget and so I don't press. I don't mean to take it earnestly.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 690 and Rs. 700 for "Vaccination Depot at Ernakulam and Mattancheri."*

President.—Motion No. 10, Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I withdraw that, Sir, with leave of the House.

(*The motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,850 for "item 185."*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—Motion No. 11, Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I withdraw the motion with the consent of the House.

(*The motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for "188—Medical Department, Appendix B."*

President.—Motion No. 12, Mr. Kannan Nayar, absent.

(*Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for "188—Medical Department, Appendix B."*

President.—Motion No. 13, Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for the omission of the allotment of Rs. 20,000 provided for the acquisition of lands to the north of the European Nurses' quarters. I cannot find any urgent necessity for this acquisition. It is not intended for any new buildings as may be gathered from the budget, and the acquisition can, therefore, be only regarded as a luxury. This must, therefore, wait until more pressing demands are provided for. We have been spending large sums in the so-called improvement of the General Hospital. Unless a definite plan is prepared, it is not proper to spend more money, on acquisitions or buildings. I, therefore, propose to omit the whole of that amount.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for "188—Medical Department, Appendix B."*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Motion No. 14 also relates to the same matter. Last year an allotment was moved in this Council for a big expenditure in the General Hospital. This Council was made to believe that the allotment was only for Rs. 40,000 for the construction of a paying ward. (*Hear, hear.*) In the course of the discussion, the Chief Engineer found that it was not safe that this misleading statement must find a place in the budget and wanted to give the correct information to the House. He gave out that the estimate was for a lakh and seventy thousand, although the figure in the budget was only Rs. 40,000. The Council was staggered at this and reduced the amount. The general feeling of the House was that no more money should be spent on the General Hospital, Ernakulam. (*Hear, hear.*) Last year, if you will only look into the total amount spent on this hospital, the following are the figures of expenditure :—(1) For the paying ward—Rs. 20,000, (2) for the raising of the European Nurses' quarters into an upstair building—Rs. 7,000, (3) for the Indian Nurses' quarters—Rs. 5,000, and (4) for the acquisition of the land to the north of the General Hospital—Rs. 15,000. Total Rs. 47,000. Last year it was agreed no more money should be spent on the General Hospital till the report of the Special Finance Committee, who was con-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

sidering this question whether any more increase in the accommodation of the General Hospital should be allowed, was made available, and this House knows now that the Committee has already recommended that the time has come to restrict the expansion of this hospital. Most of the rural dispensaries are starved, and the general trend of the report is that we have to improve the condition of the people living outside the towns. (*Hear, hear.*) Now there is that report before the Government. If we make a comparison of the figures of the number of beds available in some of the district hospitals of the Madras Presidency, I say our General Hospital compares very favourably. For instance, you will find in Madura you have got only 240 beds. Mind this number is for the whole district. Calicut for the whole of Malabar has only 83 beds, Tanjore 172, Royappetta 100, Mysore 125 and Victoria Hospital, Bangalore 156. In the General Hospital here the number is above 180 and below 190; I think it is 182 or so. We have to cut our coat according to our cloth. So, no more increase in the beds of Ernakulam can be allowed. No more expansion of the General Hospital is feasible, and adjustment in the existing buildings is the only solution.

President.—Mr. Salem also wants to say something.

Dr. A. R. Menon—It has been the habit during the Budget Session to point out to the Government that this Department of all Departments can do what the Head desires to do. I have more or less pointed out that the administration has degenerated into one where the tail wags the head instead of the head wagging the tail. There have been instances in this Council when the President had to admit that the laws had been violated; yet he was afraid to see that he does not go out of order. Such instances have taken place. Now, no other Department is allowed the privileges, which this Department does enjoy. Does the Government realise what harm is done, what mischief is done, by showing this undue consideration to the Head of one Department? I tell you, Sir, there must be an end to everything. The time has come, I tell you, that this Department must be made to realise that, after all is said and done, this Department is one of the 9 Departments of the State, and the Head of the Department must see to it that he should confine himself within the budget allotment, and he should not be made to feel that, as soon as he comes and knocks at the door, there will be a Diwan ready to sanction any expenditure he likes. Apart from this consideration, we want to know whether we can curtail the expenditure of this Department without allowing the Head of the Department to carry on as he likes.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I rise to support.

President.—Who is to reply? Is it the Chief Engineer or the Medical and Sanitary Officer?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is a question of policy rather than engineering.

President.—The estimates for the Department are prepared by the Chief Engineer.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I rise to support that motion. But, before saying anything of the merits of the allotment, I wish to dispel some misunderstanding which might arise when a non-official rises to speak opposing expenditure. Now, I can assure the House that it is not because we hesitate to grant medical relief that we oppose this construction business (*hear, hear*), but because it seems to be apparently a waste of public money. (*Hear, hear.*) I say this for the simple reason that there is an idea circulated, a rumour to the effect that, on account of the attitude of the non-official Members, even the underpaid servants are denied the dues due to them rightly and legitimately. It is to dispel that illusion, I will say, that I make this explanation before offering my remarks upon the merits of that motion. Now, with regard to this, it is said to be for acquiring certain lands for the use of the Medical Department. What use are they going to make with this? Unless we know exhaustively that there is absolute necessity for extending the premises, if I may say so, there is no reason whatever to grant the allotment asked for. Because, though I am not officially informed, I understand that these sites are intended to be used, one as the office for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and the other as a Store-room, if I am rightly informed. Where are these two things done, where is the office held, what are the buildings that are now used for these? I understand that both of them are done in the very compound where the General Hospital itself is held. How is it that it has become so absolutely necessary? Has the accumulation of stores increased to such an extent that they cannot be done in the building that is now used for it? Or has the work of the office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer increased to that extent that he has also to find accommodation for his office or larger accommodation, that he has proposed? If, as a matter of fact, the authorities concerned can convince the House that there is necessity for greater and more accommodation, the question naturally arises can it not be done in the hospital premises. Why should we go and spend Rs. 25,000 for acquisition? What about the buildings that are on the site that is proposed to be acquired? Will that be fit for the purpose intended? These are questions that will have to be considered very seriously. Now, unless it is brought to the notice of the House that it is absolutely necessary, not only absolutely necessary for extension of accommodation, but absolutely necessary to find out accommodation outside the present premises, certainly the House should not vote for them. Now, even supposing that

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

it has to be found outside the hospital premises, can we not find it, or rather provide it, on cheaper lines? Are not buildings available where these offices could be held, or these stores may be stored? All these questions will arise after that definite statement as to the purpose for which the acquisition is made. Unless this is forthcoming, I cannot go more into details. With these remarks, I strongly support this motion.

President.—Mr. Salem has a motion.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I would like to know the explanation of the Government, before I say anything. What are the sites for? What is the object of these sites? I would like to know that before I make any statement. So that, I can meet them, if I have to say anything with reference to that matter.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, the main purpose for which those sites were proposed to be acquired was, as far as I am now aware, for the location of the office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and a Central Store for medicine. The idea of fixing upon these buildings by the permanent Diwan was the result of the report of the Town Planning Expert regarding some improvements to the river-front of the Ernakulam foreshore. It was decided not only to find accommodation for the new public buildings but also to divert that road which runs from the front part of the Huzur through the bazaar to the Ernakulam Railway Station. That is the road through which the main traffic now runs, and bus and cart traffic is hampered by the fact that it runs through the crowded bazaar. Mr Dann's report is to divert that road altogether from somewhere near His Highness' Statue through the *Maidan* right up to the turning to the Railway Station and to reclaim a portion of the silted land near the shore of Ernakulam. In that case, these are the only two private buildings amidst a long row of public buildings, and if retained, they will have to be given a road which will be highly inconvenient to the plan of the Improvement Scheme. The necessity for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office is known to those of the Members who have visited the Ernakulam Hospital – the place where the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer now holds his office. Anyone who visits this place would be struck with the most inadequate arrangement within. He himself is seated in a small dark room attached to the Ophthalmic Hospital and his clerks are all placed in small side-rooms of the Ophthalmic Hospital and a small building which was bought and still retained without being demolished. There the clerks are cramped up together; the records are all put together in such a way that it is impossible to get at a particular record without spending much time to search the records. They are seated there close together that there is really no place to move about. Most of the Members who spoke upon the matter have seen the deplor-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

able condition of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office. That it requires to be changed and proper accommodation has to be provided for it will not be disputed anywhere by anybody.

Now, the question is asked 'is there not place in the premises of the General Hospital to construct an office for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer'. I say there is absolutely no space, and the whole premises of the General Hospital has been so crowded with buildings that no new building can find a place there. It was acknowledged by those expert people like Mr. Dann and also by those who have come and inspected the premises with an eye to find out sites for buildings that there is absolutely no space there for any new building at all. To find a suitable place to construct the Paying Ward without obstruction to the ventilation and light to the previously existing buildings it caused the permanent Chief Engineer considerable difficulty, so that I am sure no person with any idea of hospital construction will permit any more building to be built in the existing premises of the General Hospital. Now, we wanted a sceptic isolation ward to accommodate patients who are suffering from diseases which could not be kept in the general wards of the Hospital. We also wanted accommodation for the nurses who are working there day and night and who had to be accommodated on the premises, and, therefore, the land on the northern side was acquired for that purpose wherein the construction of the Isolation Ward and the Nurses' quarters is proceeding. The improvement of the European Nurses' quarters was found absolutely necessary because they were suffering from various inconveniences for want of accommodation, and when one of them was suffering from typhoid fever we found it extremely difficult to accommodate that sister there; and at the serious risk to the health of others they continued to live in that house. The Diwan was also satisfied with the urgent necessity of improving that building and because there was no space downstairs it was made an upstair building.

Well, as regards Stores, I have probably no idea as to how it was allowed to exist in this deplorable condition so long. Large boxes of medicine like Epsom Salt and others which are soluble are allowed to lie crowded in the verandah of the Store-room exposed to the rain and the consequent deterioration. So it was necessary to put them in a proper place, and the other building was to be used temporarily as Store-room. I brought all these things to the notice of the Diwan and I asked for the Anchal Office to the east of the Hospital. I am perfectly satisfied that that building would be sufficient both for the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office and the location of the Store-room.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

A committee consisting of myself, the Chief Engineer, the Director of Public Instruction and the Anchal Superintendent was formed to enquire into this question, and their opinion was that the Anchal Office could not be made over as the old Girls' School, to which building the Anchal Office was thought to be shifted, was urgently required for the purpose of the Education Department, so that unlike the way in which the Member for Trichur said, the Medical Department was flouted out of all considerations. And then, the only alternative was, according to their suggestion, the acquisition of these two buildings for the convenience of the Medical Department. They were satisfied as to its necessity, and as a result of their report the allotment was made. That committee's report received support from the Diwan when Mr. Dann's report for the Town Improvement also came, and then the property was proposed to be acquired. I do not think there is any reason at all to be alarmed that the money has been wasted as has been expressed here. It was only to meet the urgent needs of the Medical Department, and it is a safe and sure investment.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—On a point of information. Was not a Store-room constructed in 1102? I find provision for that in that year's budget.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No Store-room was constructed; some verandah was closed or something like that was done.

You can come and see, Sir, the utter impossibility to carry on the work. The work of supplying medicines is also delayed on account of this. That the Chief Medical Officer requires an office is an undisputed fact. Every one will be convinced if you will only come and witness the state of affairs now. Where it is to be located is the question. There is absolutely no space within the premises of the General Hospital to locate it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—On a point of information. Is it necessary that the Stores should be located in the most prominent site in Ernakulam? Is it not far too costly? I am fully at one with the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer when he says that there ought to be a proper Stores building. I also agree that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's offices are very meagrely housed. I am one with him when he demands better accommodation for both. But what I ask is, is it necessary for the Store to be in a spectacular locality. The estimate of Rs. 20,000 is, I am sure, far short of the would-be expenditure for acquiring these two buildings and 70 cents of valuable land. I am sure it will come to some 40,000 rupees. We have got plenty of land available in the eastern side and the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

northern side of the General Hospital and we can put up these two buildings somewhere there. Why not put up a decent office building and another for Stores at much less cost? And unless you want prominence, I do not see the reason why you should go in for such costly work. I am not against the idea of your having a building for Stores and another for your office. Both are required I know. Nor am I at all against the idea of improving the General Hospital in every way. I am only against locating these proposed buildings in by far the most costly locality in Ernakulam.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Sir, when the road is diverted, there will be space in front of the General Hospital for a building for your office. Why not you put up a building for the Chief Medical Officer's office there ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Sir, I want to say one or two words in regard to this matter. We have now heard of Mr. Dann and his Town Improvement Scheme. We do not know anything about that scheme ; how many lakhs it is going to cost we do not know. Is it only the thin end of the wedge that you are trying to introduce Sir? 20,000 rupees has come as a result of an idea of an Improvement Scheme. If so, how many lakhs is going to be spent on that ? We have no definite information here. You simply say that Mr. Dann proposes something. I had a conversation with Mr. Dann. He was only asking me 'is your Government prepared to spend lakhs and lakhs for the improvement of this town?" Are you going to do it? If not, then don't say that this is a part of Mr. Dann's scheme simply to justify what you say. With regard to the office and the Stores—I understand you want a building for medicinal Stores. Is it necessary that you should have all the medicine stored in the General Hospital itself ? Why don't you hand them over to the various hospitals or send them direct to the various hospitals ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is what is being done. It is only the Reserve Stores that we have got here.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Whatever is necessary for each and every hospital, why not that supply be sent at once so that you may not store them here ? You want only for the General Hospital some little reserve supply, I believe. For that if there is no room in the Hospital itself why can't one building be raised ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is impossible. It has been pronounced that the building cannot be raised. It has been looked into. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government most seriously.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—As one speaker said, you may rest assured that 20,000 rupees is only one-fourth of the would-be expenditure. The Land Acquisition Peishkar might pay 100 or 150 rupees a cent ; the party will think he may get more, and he will go to Court and demand 250 rupees a cent and we know what the Courts generally do. Rs. 20,000 is all the money you want now ; once it is begun you will require another 20 or 40 thousand.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—This amount is the Land Acquisition Officer's forecast.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—We lawyers know what the forecast is.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon—On a point of information. Will you kindy refer to the paragraphs in Mr. Dann's report about the suggestion ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I shall, if you will kindly give me time. I shall send for it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for 'acquisition of sites north of the General Hospital'.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—When you are going to refer to Mr. Dann's report, you should have been ready with the report. I wish to say one or two words. In the Standing Finance Committee it was pointed out that there was space available in the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's quarters for locating his office. The Chief Medical Officer now occupies a very big building on the other side of the Jail. And there are three wings attached to the private residence and there is ample space there for locating his office comfortably, and that will be close to his residence and most convenient for work. He can work during day and night there, because it will be near his residence. If the northernmost wing is screened off, there will be sufficient space for locating the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office, and if a portion of the wing is raised into an upstair building, that will be sufficient to locate his Central Stores, as well. Therefore, the argument that, for the purpose of locating the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's office and Stores, no other building is available at the hands of the Government without incurring such heavy cost does not hold any water. I also want to tell you, Sir, that very soon the Vendurutti Leper Asylum will go to Adur, and that building will be available to locate your Central Stores. It will not be a Leper Asylum then; you can white-wash it, and keep your medicines in boxes there.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I move that the question be now put.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I second it.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—This may be treated as a closure motion.

The closure motion was agreed to.

(*The original motion was put and agreed to, 28 voting for it.*)

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The Lady Member is absent. The absentees may be noted.

Motions Nos. 16, 16 A and 17—18.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,500 for '193- for Paying Wards in the General Hospital' by Rs. 5,500.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs.10,500 for 'constructing a Pay Ward at Ernakulam.'*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,500 for '193—constructing a Paying Ward' by Rs. 5,500,*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,500 for '193- constructing a Paying Ward by Rs. 5,550.*

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for a reduction of Rs. 5,500 from the amount of Rs. 10,500 allotted for Paying Wards. My reasons are these. Last year there was a demand for Rs. 40,000 by the Government for constructing these Paying Wards. That amount was reduced to Rs. 20,000 by a substantial cut of this Council and that was accepted by the Government. It was in spite of this that the estimate was prepared for Rs. 25,500. If the Government can thus ignore the Proceedings of the Council and accepted by them, I can find no useful purpose served by discussing the budget in the Council. This procedure of the Government is highly irregular. I, therefore, move that that amount may be reduced by Rs. 5,500.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 10,500 for 'constructing a Pay Ward at Ernakulam'.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I rise to move the deletion of the amount, *i. e.*, Rs. 5,500 budgetted for the construction of a Pay Ward in the General Hospital at Ernakulam.

In the last budget when the cut for Rs. 20,000 was allowed and Rs. 20,000 budgetted out of Rs. 40,000 originally budgetted, the Council distinctly brought to the notice of the Government that no amount would be sanctioned for any further extensions in the General Hospital. To defy this, I suppose, in this budget a demand of Rs. 5,500 is included. In the course of the discussion on the last budget, we were surprised to hear the Chief Engineer when he said that that amount of Rs. 40,000 budgetted was only a portion of a big estimate covering over a lakh and seventy thousand rupees. Then only we knew that Rs. 40,000 budgetted was the thin end of the wedge. That induced the Council to say distinctly that no more money would be sanctioned for the purpose. This demand now clearly demonstrates that the Government have an idea in spite of our

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

protest of spending a large sum on this. An extension involving acquisition of site and construction of buildings involving perhaps lakhs would be the necessary consequence. I think that would be a waste of public money or at least an unnecessary expenditure not warranted now.

Further the Special Finance Committee has suggested a number of improvements, and let us see whether this is a suggested improvement. This item might continue year after year unless we knock it on the very head now. And when all the money is spent, the result would be a mountain labouring and bringing forth a mole. So I would appeal to the House to vote with me to omit this item from the budget altogether.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, never have I done a greater mischief than when I proposed that Paying Wards should be introduced in this State. I would request the House to listen to me a few minutes so that I may make them understand how a noble proposal has been converted for a selfish and self-seeking purpose. I have been abused and called self-interested. No matter what abuse has been showered upon me I shall continue to espouse the cause of the independent medical profession in this State.

Sir, in this case fortunately no personal interest could be attributed by any stretch of imagination whatsoever, and if I again propose to speak on this subject, it is because there is a change of precedent, that there is a man to whom I can appeal, who would understand the standpoint instead of simply nodding the head, when anything is spoken on this subject.

Hear me now, Sir. The original proposal was that a Nursing House should be started entirely different from the Government Institution maintained by the Government, collecting fees for certain rights used by the patient, giving him the choice of calling any Doctor, whomsoever he likes. Here are human beings, and the Chief Medical Officer has got an opinion of himself, and I have got an opinion of myself, and a person who would like to call me may not like to call him. It may so happen that somebody may think that I am vehement and somebody may prefer to call me instead of the Chief Medical Officer. Now, by opening a Nurses' Home within your General Hospital, you are restricting the choice of the patients in the selection of Doctors. The only argument by which you can justify yourself is your paid medical men are being let loose upon the public in competition against the poor private practitioners on the ground that the choice of the patient should be restricted by any means. Just think of it, how it has been converted! Have I not caused enough trouble to my colleagues, enough trouble by this competition? Just think of it. Take one hospital, take Trichur with

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

60 beds. There are 10 Doctors, Rs. 1,800 a year. In Calicut there are 110 beds with a Surgeon, an Assistant Surgeon and two Sub-Assistant Surgeons. Just think of the number in this Hospital! Should not the Government have some consideration for the people who try to lead a living without calling upon the Government? Why should you penalise men who stand on their own legs and try to earn a living? We do not ask for your help. Are you justified in penalising them because they are not sponging hard?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Is that relevant?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is relevant. Instead of continuing that Department, I would have got a cut motion to remove the whole. Unfortunately this point was not well impressed upon the audience. And the Member for Ernakulam, considering that a large amount of money is spent unnecessarily, reduced it to Rs.20,000. That motion was carried. Should not the Government consider all these things? Should they yield to the self-interest of a few people in the State? That is what we want to know. You may call me bad tempered if I lose my temper for my own purpose. Have I ever asked for a favour from you? So long as I am here, I shall not allow you to pass these things unnoticed, no matter how strong the man is. Therefore, I say even this Rs. 20,000 spent is unnecessary, is vexatious, is only intended for helping the Chief Medical Officer and his Assistants to carry on private work in a more comfortable and a more convenie nt manner. Certainly, is there any man in Ernakulam who is equal to that eye-Doctor Paul ? Why is he not treating your eyes?

President.—Personal remarks should not be made.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is because he is not in Government service. I say there is an eminent Doctor here—an eye-Doctor. Suppose I wanted my eyes to be treated by you, and I want to take advantage of the Government Institution like the one you have introduced. Why should I not, I ask, unless you come forward and say openly 'Look here, this is our prize-boy; we will do everything to save him'? Therefore, this 20,000 rupees that you have spent is improperly and unnecessarily spent.

President.—Motion Nos. 16 to 18 are identical motions.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,500 for '193—constructing a Paying Ward' by Rs. 5,500.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—No. 17 stands in my name. I do not think I have anything more to add to what has already been said by the previous speakers.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,500*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

for '193—constructing a Paying Ward' by Rs. 5,500.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I withdraw my motion with the consent of the House.

(*The motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, I do not mean to traverse the whole ground which has been gone over on the last occasion as to the necessity of the Paying Wards. The Hon'ble Member for Trichur has been inveighing against the action of the Government, which is the result of the pronounced and emphatic opinion of this House.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Certainly not.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—As a result of this pronouncement, we brought a scheme, which is rather a combined scheme, for the Paying Wards and improved accommodation to the General Hospital. I shall not waste the time of this Council by repeating the emphatic opinion expressed beginning from the Leader of the Party. The most prominent men who compose that Party were saying that the Paying Ward was a desideratum in the Medical Administration. As a result of that, Government accepted their view, and they started to construct a Paying Ward in the General Hospital. They have still a further idea of doing the same thing in the Civil Hospital at Trichur, for which there is provision in this year's budget.

Now, Sir, it has been said that the original proposal has been converted, and so it is one for the convenience of the Government servants. I am not going to argue that it is not so. It does not require any argument. It is not for the accommodation of a very few people. The General Hospital is an institution not only for the rich but also for the poor. The poor must also be made to take advantage of the best and advanced modern medical science. Then, Sir, no surgical operation can be done, as the Hon'ble Member for Trichur will admit, in any private house.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I do such operations.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is all for the Government to consider. Of course, nursing homes are springing up everywhere, not under Government management, but under private management. That is so in Europe and America. In Madras also there is a Nursing Home where the patients can send for any Doctor they like. But then there is this thing; they are not managed on public funds. Except these private concerns, I know of no institution that is financed from the coffers of the State, where private practitioners are given a free hand, and that is the only anomaly that I have been speaking about. All these grounds have been trodden over in this House.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Then the question of excess provision over the allotment sanctioned by this House is a matter that my Hon'ble Member for P. W. D. will explain. I have no hand in that at all. I told the Diwan we will accept the dictum of the House, and I withdrew my demand for extra accommodation. We want a building to accommodate six beds suitable for the purpose for which it is intended, and also suitable as a model institution of the State. That is all that I said. They took considerable trouble to prepare the plans and estimates simply because we had no grounds in the hospital premises. But the question of exceeding the amount sanctioned will be explained by the Member for Public Works.

President.—We will now rise.

The Council rose for the day, it being 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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